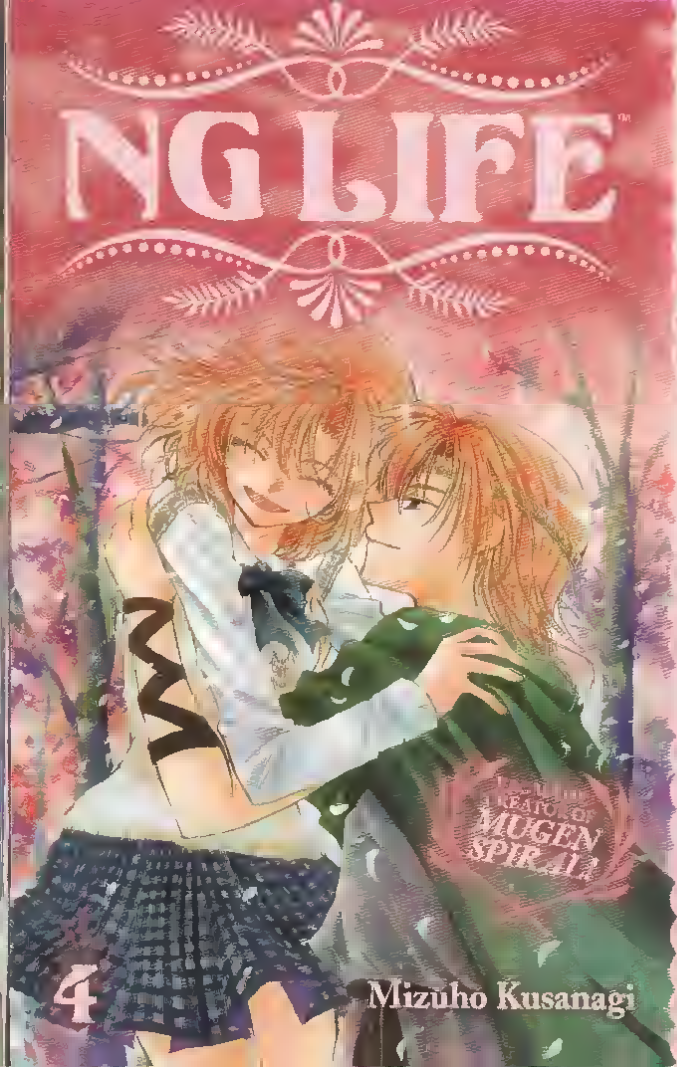
NG LIFE



4

Mizuho Kusanagi

TOKYOPOP

...FROM FIRST THING IN THE MORN-ING.

IT'S TIME!

KEIDA-!

THAT DAY WAS NO GOOD (TOTALLY NG)...

GET THE HELL UP ALREADY.

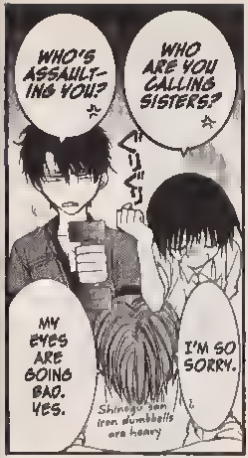
GAAAAHHH!!!

すおおおお

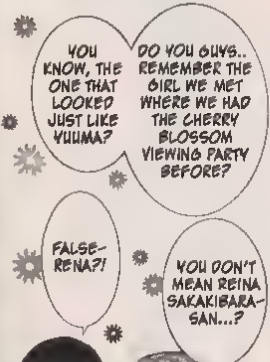
This space is for the author's one-word (?) comments!

To all of you reading NG Life thank you so, so much!

← The mini character pic this time is something I drew for a special supplement to the manga magazine You have Sirius (L) and Keidai (R) In the magazine I draw pics like this from time to time If you'd like, please check out the magazine as well!


WHO'S ASSAULTING YOU?
WHO ARE YOU CALLING SISTERS?
I'M SO SORRY.
MY EYES ARE GOING BAD. YES.
Shinogu-san iron dumbbells are heavy

...JEEZ!
COULD THE SISTERS NOT ASSAULT SOMEONE STILL IN BED FIRST THING IN THE MORNING, PLEASE?
It's bad for my heart

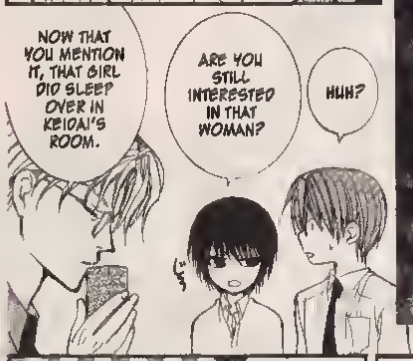

YOU KNOW, THE ONE THAT LOOKED JUST LIKE YUUMA?
DO YOU GUYS.. REMEMBER THE GIRL WE MET WHERE WE HAD THE CHERRY BLOSSOM VIEWING PARTY BEFORE?
FALSE-RENA?!
YOU DON'T MEAN REINA SAKAKIBARA-SAN...?

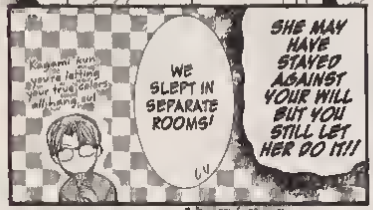
Even with troublesome students' counseling, a period on dad has still staying at Yuumas.
SO YOU DON'T TRY ANYTHING WEIRD ON YUUMA.
I'M YUUMA'S CHAPERONE.
WHY ARE YOU HERE, SHINOGU-SAN?
I'M NOT TRYING ANYTHING!!
Go back to your own flat!

.....

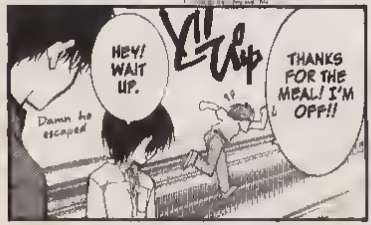
WHAT ABOUT HER?
DON'T TELL ME YOU SAW HER AGAIN!
WHY ARE YOU SO EAGER?

...HOW COULD I POSSIBLY FORGET? SHE CALLED ME "SIRIX"
WE HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE, THOUGH


NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THAT GIRL DID SLEEP OVER IN KEIOAI'S ROOM.
ARE YOU STILL INTERESTED IN THAT WOMAN?
HUH?


Kagami-kun, you're letting your true colors all hang out
WE SLEPT IN SEPARATE ROOMS!
SHE MAY HAVE STAYED AGAINST YOUR WILL BUT YOU STILL LET HER DO IT!!

LISTEN, SHE STAYED THE NIGHT AGAINST MY WILL...
A GIRL (WHO LOOKS LIKE SERENA) SLEPT OVER IN YOUR ROOM! YOU SURE ARE ALL GROWN UP, KEI-CHAN!
OH HO HO!
GET HIM, SHINOBU!


Yi! Up
HEY! WAIT UP.
THANKS FOR THE MEAL! I'M OFF!!
Damn he escaped

If I talk to him now I'll just get beat up
I'LL HEAR HIM OUT WHEN HE'S COOLED DOWN A BIT.
HEY, SHINOBU WAS STILL TALKING TO YOU!
HIS HOROSCOPE SAYS HIS LUCK WITH WOMEN WILL BE BAD TODAY
Ohh!
Ohh!
"HEY, YOU THERE."
OH, SHUT IT!!
A LOST CHILD?
.....
"WOULD YOU MIND SHOWING ME TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE?"
WHERE HAVE I SEEN YOU...
...HM.
Oh!

It's NG #4! Yaaay, I'm so happy! vv

You see, this particular book makes 10 total collected volumes I've had published. To everyone that supports me, and to everyone on the editorial staff who allow me to continue to draw, thank you all so much!

10 volumes, huh?!

It's been approximately five years now since I became a mangaka but I feel like not much of the environment surrounding me has really changed. Nope, no growth for me at all! bb But I think that for students, five years is a big, big deal.

Students are studying every day, worrying and learning. And to think that when they do finally take a break, they read my manga. It just gives me such joy and happiness.

I don't mind if you take your time to read thoroughly, or if you just flip through the pages and skim. Heck, you can even sip tea from one hand and read with the other, just enjoy yourself when you do

Unfailingly nice to girls
LONG TIME NO SEE. I'M YUUMA'S COUSIN, SHINOGU KAGAMI.
DON'T TELL ME YOU KNOW KEIGA! SO YOU'RE A TEACHER HERE?
I'M A STUDENT TEACHER, BUT TODAY'S MY LAST DAY.
Wow, she really does look like Serena
ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE INVOLVED TOO, THEN?
...HIS COUSIN...
OH WELL, WHATEVER. I HAVE BUSINESS AT THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.
WHAT KIND OF BUSINESS AT THIS SCHOOL?
.....
THOSE INVOLVED? ...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

TODAY I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE OUR NEW TRANSFER STUDENT TO EVERYONE
Reina Sakakibara.
...CAME TRUE ALL RIGHT.
THAT PREDICTION OF DADDY KEIGAI'S...
"IF YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE INVOLVED..."
"...THEN I'LL TELL YOU."
"INVOLVED." HUH...
QUITE SUGGESTIVE...
FUN?
AT ANY RATE, BAD LUCK WITH WOMEN, HUH?

AAAHHH!!
NICE TO MEET YOU.
MY NAME IS REINA SAKAKIBARA.
Hey, Ayako!
IT'S NOT LOVE, IT'S FRIENDSHIP, DAMMIT!!
HE REALLY GETS WORKED UP OVER THAT LATELY, HUH
I am Arao
Hey, Nicola, you sleep too much
Break Period
OH, TO BE YOUNG!
JUST AS IN LOVE AS EVER.
YEAH!
I'm gonna get Strawberry milk!
SERIZAWA, WANNA GO TO THE SHOP?
I'm Oono
I'm Ka
I'm Matsuura

THAT HORRIBLE WOMAN IS COMING...
HURRY! RUN!
YUUMA?
What's up?
KEIDAI!
HOW RUDE!!
AH!
KEIDAI!
I MISSED YOU! ♡♡

ざわざわ
I TRANSFERRED TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL TODAY!
I MOVED TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD RECENTLY.
At the cherry blossom viewing I've just arrived
HEY-- SAKAKIBARA-SAN! WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WHA... WHAT'S ALL THIS?!
WHO'S THE HOT CHICK? SAEKI'S GOTTEN HIMSELF INTO ANOTHER SCANDAL...
EH?!
HEY! THAT'S ENOUGH, BACK OFF NOW!
I WANTED TO SEE YOU, SO I CAME OVER! ♡
WHA WHAT'S THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?
DIDN'T YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU LIKED
Wheeee!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
SE...SE.. SERENA...
I FORGOT ABOUT HIM.

THE VISION IN KEIDAI'S MIND.
RIGHT IN FRONT OF SERIZAWA ...
ONE'S A DUDE, DUDE.
ARE THEY IDENTICAL TWINS?
HE'S GONE TOTALLY LIMP.
IS THIS MAGICAL SERENALAND?
WHY ARE YOU GETTING IN MY WAY?
BECAUSE YOU'RE PLOTTING SOME-THING, AREN'T YOU?
HOW DARE YOU. I'M FOND OF KEIDAI.
UH... UH, GUYS, COULD YOU NOT CAUSE A FUSS HERE?
People are watching
HOW PATHETIC ...
CUTE!!
LUCKY KEI-CHAN! IT'S THE GIRL WHO LOOKS LIKE SERENA.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST EAT HER UP?
W-W-W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THERE'S NOTHING GOING ON WITH THAT GIRL AND ME..
BUT...
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT REINA-CHAN SLEPT IN YOUR BED EARLIER?

NG LIFE

[illegible] Kedo [illegible] the [illegible] With [illegible] the time, Kedo' [illegible] in for a [illegible] gender-bending, reincarnated love-polygon [illegible]

[illegible] girl Rena m[illegible] Kedo's school—and she [illegible] exactly like [illegible] Kedo's p[illegible]-th[illegible] wif[illegible] the wife current[illegible] reincarn[illegible] Tin the form of his [illegible]-best friend Yuma. Will Rena [illegible]iration with Kedo sparke[illegible] n[illegible] memory of his past-life in Meanwhile, [illegible] creatur[illegible]es to struggle [illegible] their present day feelings [illegible]-Kedo, and her p[illegible]-life impulse to [illegible] Kedo and Yuma together again.

"An [illegible]ntertaining [illegible]nd compell[illegible]ng [illegible]
-Publ[illegible]

"The [illegible]rt is sparkly and cute, and the characters' [illegible]ove-frustrations is endear[illegible] it gets into their [illegible]cha[illegible]cters.

[illegible] Us

漫画革命

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51099

T
TEEN
AGE 13+

TOKYOPOP AGE RATING
MAY CONTAIN:
MILD VIOLENCE
MILD BLOOD
MILD FANSERVICE

COMEDY

WHAAAT?!
どぉっ
WHAT THE HECK?! ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU'VE CLIMBED THE STAIRWAY TO ADULTHOOD?!
NO NO NO NO NOOO!!
HOW BOORISH ...
DON'T SIT ON MY LAP!!
おーっ
Oooohh!!
WOULD YOU STOP!!
THIS IS HILARIOUS! I'M TEXTING A PHOTO TO KAGAMI-SENSEI. ♡
MAN, SAEKI, THAT'S JUST WRONG. GOING OUT WITH SERIZAWA AND BLATANTLY CHEATING ON HER...
YOU'RE GOING OUT?
WE ARE NOT, AND THERE'S NOTHING GOING ON WITH THIS GIRL EITHER.
Just look at how Serizawa's taking all this!

HEY! WAIT~~
SERIZAWAAA! SAEKI'S BUSY, SO I'LL GO WITH YOU TO THE SHOP!
I'LL BUY YOU A STRAW-BERRY MILK!
OOH, REALLY?
UH.
...FOR REAL. OKAY?
THEN I'M GOING AFTER SERIZAWA...
--Above all the, I just wanted to say that
AND SERIZAWA! DON'T BE SEDUCED BY PROMISES OF STRAWBERRY MILK!
AH! THAT OONO! HE'S EVEN GOT HIS HAND ON HER BACK!
You're the one with a girlfriend dammit!
NICE TIMING!
キーンコーンカーンコーン
OH, THE BELL.
Tch
HMMM, SO IT'S NOT JUST SERENA FOR YOU.
.....
WHAT AM I DOING..
Gasp!

WHA...
IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE THINGS YOU WANT...
...THEY'LL GET STOLEN AWAY FROM YOU.
.....
So mean! I can't believe you'd cheat with her!
WHAT IS WITH THAT GIRL, SAEKI-KUN?!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HER DEAL IS EITHER!!
C'MON ALREADY, ANTOINETTE!
IF YOU HAVE COMPLAINTS, THEN COME TO VERSAILLES! *
Oh ho ho!
WHA...

* A line from the manga/anime "The Rose of Versailles"

...ON YOUR MARKS--
WE'LL BE TAKING YOUR TIMES FOR THE 100-METER DASH TODAY.
I MEAN, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WHEN SHE GETS ALL CLOSE TO ME LIKE THAT WITH SERENA'S FACE?
WAS SHE REALLY SERIOUS...?
I just don't get her
One two one two
ALTHOUGH THERE'S SO MUCH THAT I WANT TO ASK...
...SHE'S NOT INTERESTED IN ADDRESSING ANY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS.
Uh Sasa!
This really hurts
Is this revenge for earlier?
P E
Stretching with Oono-kun
KEIDAI!
I MADE A CUPCAKE FOR YOU DURING HOME EC.
DAMMIT, SELF! DON'T GET TRICKED BY HER!

FALSERENA! WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?!
HE SHOWED UP!
YUUMA, PERFECT TIMING!
HOLD UP, YOU JERK! DON'T YOU KNOW YOU ONLY GET ONE YOUTH?!
WHY ARE YOU GIVING IT TO ME NOW?!
EAT IT! ♡
AH!
KEIDAI! THIS CUPCAKE WITH EXTRA PROTEIN WILL MAKE YOU STRONGER. ☆
WHY ARE YOU COMPETING WITH HER?!
OH!
Sorry! Please accept this!

THAT'S OUR SAEKI-KUN!
EEEE!
SAEKI-KUN ACCEPTED THE BOY'S.
EEEE!
He never fails to deliver the lame.
Completely forget his first priority
First place!
I WIN!
Mmm humiliating!
TSK.
Uh, it's only half baked
WHAT WONDERFUL SKILLS YOU HAVE.
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF CLEANING RIGHT NOW!
HEY NOW! SAEKI-KUN! JUST DUMP THAT GIRL ALREADY!
I BET YOU PUT POISON IN THERE!
KEIGA! I'LL FEED YOU LUNCH!
I'M GOOD, THANKS!
SHOW ME AROUND SCHOOL!
YOU CLEAN UP TOO, FALSERENA!
Dashing Bad Luck with Women Sakai...Ho
AFTER SCHOOL.
KEI-CHAN!
MIND IF I STOP BY YOUR HOUSE ON THE WAY HOME TODAY, CHAN?
I want to borrow some CDs

WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING JUST A FEELING LIKE SOMETHING'S COMING...
がばっ
CORRECT! ♡
GAH!
SAKAKIBARA-SAN!
HEY, CAN WE GO SOMEPLACE? JUST THE TWO OF US?
.....
NO...
SERIZAWA AND I ARE..
AGLAIA.
WHAT...
...WAS THAT NOW...?
LET'S GO.
YOU...
SOMEPLACE WHERE WE CAN BE ALONE.

Oh!
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANTED TO WATCH ON TV.
UM, BUT...
I'M GOING ON NOME, THEN.
IT...
IT'S TOTALLY FINE! GO ON AHEAD.
YOU GOT AN INVITE FROM A GIRL WHO'S TOTALLY YOUR TYPE, KEI-CHAN.
Yaoi batter accept!
Bye bye!
DON'T ADDRESS YOUR UPPER-CLASSMAN AS "THAT GIRL"..
HEY, NOW
WHAT AN IDIOT!!
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET UPSET ABOUT?!
WHY ARE YOU SO STUB-BORN?
NO MATTER HOW I FAN THE FLAMES, SHE ACTS LIKE IT'S ALL OKAY.
AND THAT GIRL TOO.
I thought for sure with some of the stuff I said she'd get mad at me and fight back, or something...
I'M NOT REALLY...
IF IT'S BOTHERING YOU, YOU CAN TOTALLY GO WITH HER.

JUST HOW FAR ARE WE GOING?
IF I'M GOING TO MAKE A CONFESSION. .
...IT'S BEST TO DO IT UNDER A BEAUTIFUL SUNSET, HMM?
.....
TELL ME.
JUST WHO ARE YOU?
HOW DO YOU KNOW LADY AGLAIA?
AGLAIA FELIX...
THE LADY...
...I SWORE ALLEGIANCE TO IN MY PAST LIFE.

COULD IT BE THAT... YOU'RE SOME-ONE WITH MEMORIES TOO?
LADY AGLAIA...
... SOME-ONE CLOSE TO YOU?
IS LADY AGLAIA ...
YES ..
...YEAH.
JUST WHO...
I KNEW IT.
YOU DO REMEM-BER...
...I AM...
AHH...
...SERENA.
THAT TAKES ME BACK ...
...THE NAME AGLAIA.

NG LIFE

Volume 4
Mizuho Kusanagi

I'M A FOOLISH GIRL.
...TO BELIEVE THAT I WAS SERENA.
I WAS RAISED...
I... I LOOK LIKE SERENA, DON'T I?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT ...
SINCE I WAS LITTLE I WAS CALLED SERENA. IT WAS LIKE A GAME OF PRETEND...
...FOR ANOTHER PERSON LIKE YOU, WITH MEMORIES OF POMPEII.
THE SAME MEMORIES AS ME...?!
I WAS HAPPY. BECAUSE I WAS "SERENA" ...
...IT MEANT THAT IN MY PAST LIFE, I'D BEEN CONNECTED TO THE PERSON WHO WAS SO SPECIAL TO ME NOW.
BUT AS I GOT OLDER, I FOUND OUT THAT I ONLY LOOKED LIKE HER.
FOR ME ALONE...
...IT WAS TRULY...
...JUST A GAME OF PRETEND.

IF I EVER SAW YOU AGAIN, KEIDAI...
...I WAS DETER-MINED TO ASK YOU.
AM I AMONG YOUR MEMORIES?
AND IS SERENA...
...ABSO-LUTELY YUUMA?

IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY DOES SHE LOOK SO MUCH LIKE HER?
I SEE...
THAT'S SOMETHING SHE HERSELF HAS FELT SO MUCH IT HURTS
I'M TALKING NON-SENSE.
FOR-GIVE ME.
DOES LADY AGLAIA HAVE HER MEMORIES?
AND THIS PERSON YOU LIKE...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, SHE SAID BEFORE THAT THE PERSON SHE LIKES HAS A DESTINED SOULMATE...
...YEAH.
THERE'S JUST ONE SERENA...
...AND IT'S ONLY YUUMA.

!!
OHH, AND AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
I COULD INTRODUCE YOU AS MY BOYFRIEND.
SHOULD I ARANGE A MEETING?
UH... NO, THAT WOULD BE...
Tweedle-lee-dah!
WHA--
WHAT?!
OHH, SO IT'S HER TRUE LOVE..
WHA? YOU CAME UP TO THE SCHOOL?
DON'T PICK ME UP!
WHAT?
NO! WAIT, I'M ABOUT TO GO HOME TOO!
NO-THING...
Hah-hah-hah
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?
CO.. COULD YOU NOT CALL ME?
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A DATE, YOU KNOW!

WHO WAS IT THAT THREW HERSELF AT ME, AGAIN?
SHUT THE HELL UP!! YOU LOSER PAST-LIFE FREAK!!
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE IT'S SO FUN TO MESS WITH YOU GUYS!
Hmph
!
...WHEN YOU'RE TALKING TO THE PERSON YOU LOVE.
JUST THINKING THAT'S QUITE A FACE YOU MAKE...
...UM. THAT GIRL, SERIZAWA... IS SHE ONE OF THOSE INVOLVED IN YOUR PAST LIFE?
YEAH. SHE WAS MY BEST FRIEND BACK THEN.
ALTHOUGH SHE KNOWS ABOUT HER PAST LIFE FROM WHAT I'VE TOLD HER, SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY MEMORIES.
...IS THAT MAYBE I WANTED TO BELIEVE...
ALTHOUGH WHAT STILL GETS ME...
...THAT IF I WERE WITH YOU, I MIGHT BE SERENA.

WHA...
I'M NOT INTO HER!!
IT MADE ME A LITTLE HAPPY.
'CAUSE YOU'RE LOOKING AT SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOUR DESTINED SERENA
WHY BRING SERIZAWA UP?
BECAUSE YOU'RE REALLY, REALLY INTO HER.
ドクーン
BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH I DON'T CARE WHO YOU LIKE...
...IF YOU LOSE SIGHT OF YOUR PRESENT LIFE NOW BECAUSE OF WHAT IS LONG PAST..
...I'LL BE RIGHT THERE TO SMACK SOME SENSE INTO YOU, OKAY?
WELL, BYE. WE CAN TALK MORE SOME OTHER TIME.

NOPE.
YOU'RE VERY CUTE.
...IS THERE ... SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT ME?
Grr I got laughed at again
Hee hee hee
.....
'CAUSE YOU'RE LOOKING AT SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOUR DESTINED SERENA.
THAT CAN'T BE IT...

HUH...?
SHE SURE TELLS IT LIKE IT IS.
..BUT WITH SERENA'S FACE.
...OH.
SHE'S DOWN THERE ALREADY?
THAT WAS FAST!
Hee hee.

SOME-THING'S STUCK IN MY CRAW...
ALTHOUGH I COULDN'T SEE HIM VERY WELL BECAUSE HE WAS SO FAR AWAY...
IS THAT THE PERSON SAKAKIBARA-SAN LIKES..?
GAH!
How embarrassing
...OWWW.
WHAAA?!
SOMEONE PASSED OUT IN FRONT OF MY HOUSE?!
HO... HOLD ON, MISS!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

Vol. 4

By Mizuho Kusanagi

TOKYOPOP

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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NG ライフ

CHARACTER INTRODUCTIONS

佑城裕真 YUUMA UJOH

A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT WHO MOVES IN NEXT DOOR TO KEIDAI. IN THE PAST HE WAS SIRIX'S WIFE, SERENA. THOUGH HE WAS BORN A BOY IN THE PRESENT, HE STILL STRONGLY RESEMBLES SERENA. LIKES SERIZAWA.

冴木敬大 KEIDAI SAEKI

OUR HERO. IN HIS PAST LIFE, HE WAS A GLADIATOR NAMED SIRIX. HE REMEMBERS HIS PAST LIFE, AND EVEN IN THE PRESENT, HE SPENDS HIS DAILY LIFE IN AGONY DUE TO HIS UNDYING LOVE FOR HIS PAST WIFE, SERENA.

芹沢美依 MII SERIZAWA

KEIDAI'S BEST FRIEND WHO KNOWS ALL ABOUT KEIDAI'S MEMORIES OF HIS PAST LIFE. IN THE PAST SHE WAS LOLEUS, SIRIX'S BEST FRIEND. SHE LIKES KEIDAI BUT CAN'T BRING HERSELF TO TELL HIM..?

STORY

KEIDAI SAEKI CAN REMEMBER HIS PAST LIFE. MANY YEARS AGO, HE WAS A YOUNG MAN NAMED SIRIX WHO LIVED IN A CITY CALLED POMPEII WITH A WIFE NAMED SERENA AND A BEST FRIEND NAMED LOLEUS. THEY LIVED IN PEACE AND HAPPINESS BUT ULTIMATELY PERISHED WHEN THEIR CITY WAS DESTROYED IN A VOLCANIC ERUPTION. AND NOW, IN THE PRESENT... HIS WIFE HAS BEEN REBORN AS A BOY AND HIS BEST FRIEND AS A GIRL! EVERY DAY IS FULL OF ANGUISH FOR KEIDAI AS HE STRUGGLES WITH THESE RELATIONSHIPS IN A COMPLETELY ALTERED PRESENT!

ADD YUUMA'S COUSIN SHINOBU (SMYRNA IN THE PAST) TO THE MIX, AND KEIDAI HAS EVEN MORE TO PANIC ABOUT...

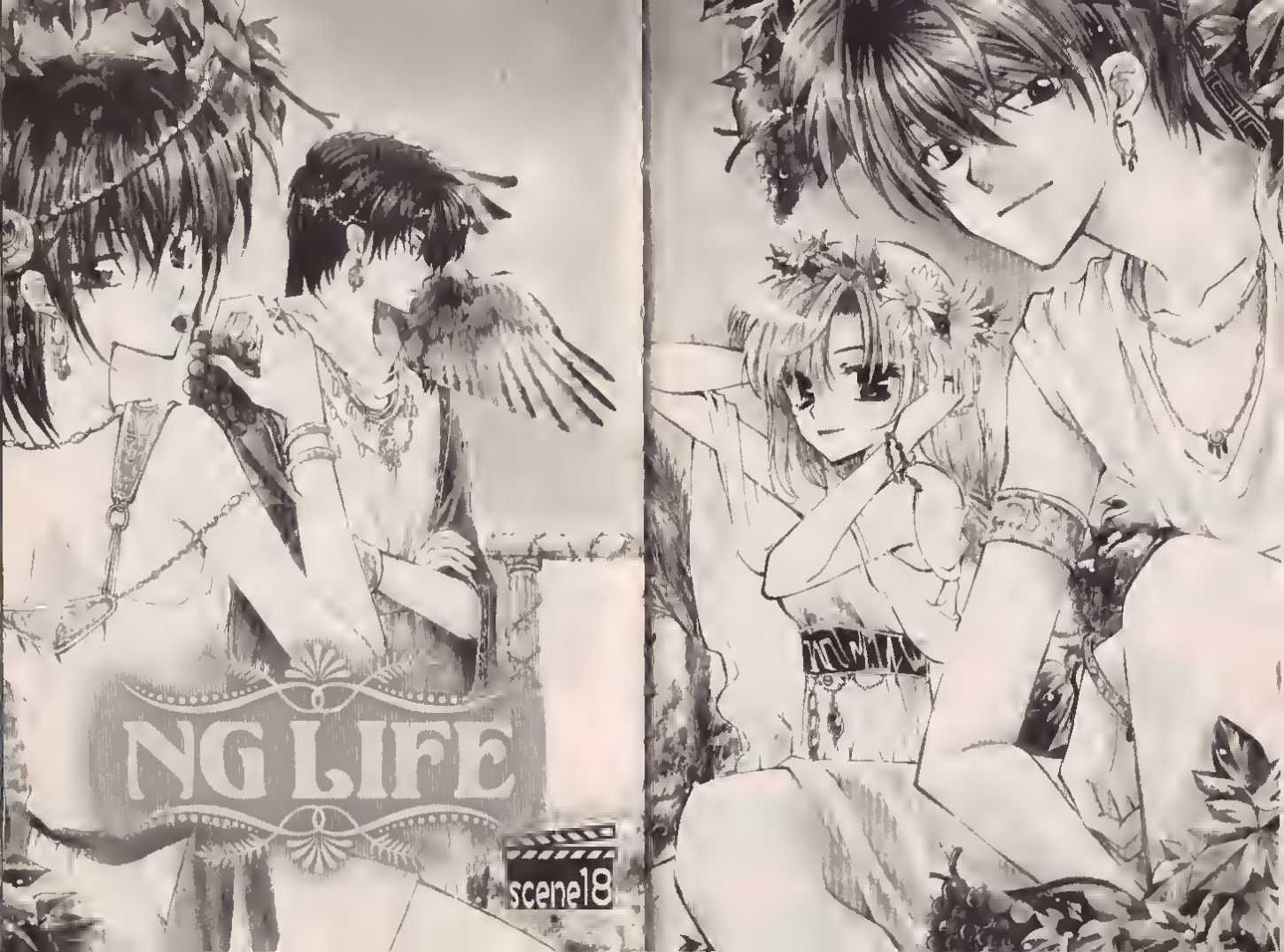
SMYRNA (PAST)

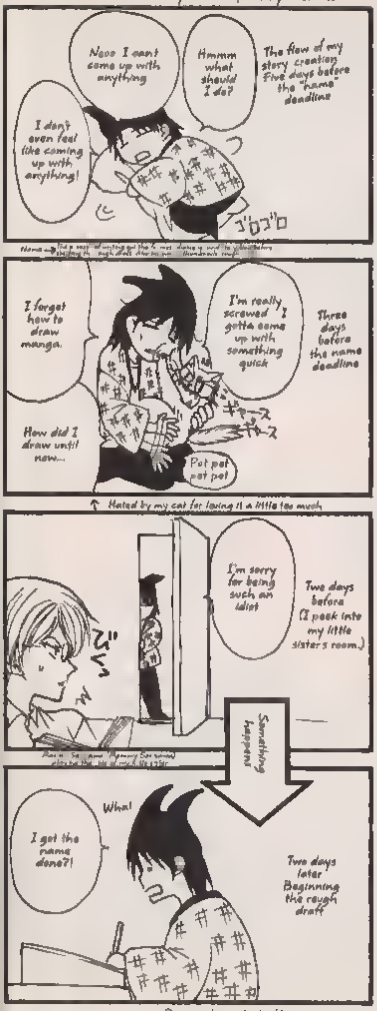
SHINOBU KAGAMI (PRESENT)

YUUMA'S COUSIN. IN THE PAST, HE WAS SERENA'S OLDER SISTER. BECAUSE OF HIS "BIG SISTER" COMPLEX, HE BULLIES KEIDAI (SIRIX).

REINA SAKAKIBARA

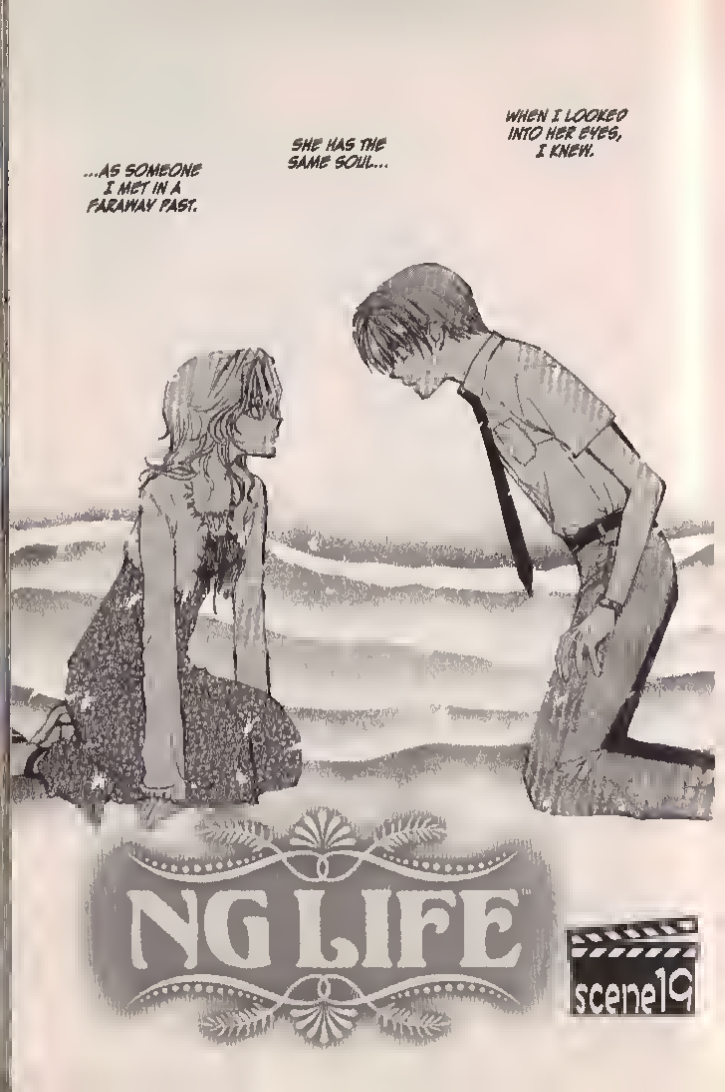
A GIRL WHO LOOKS JUST LIKE SERENA BUT SHE SOMEHOW KNEW KEIDAI'S NAME FROM HIS PAST LIFE..?

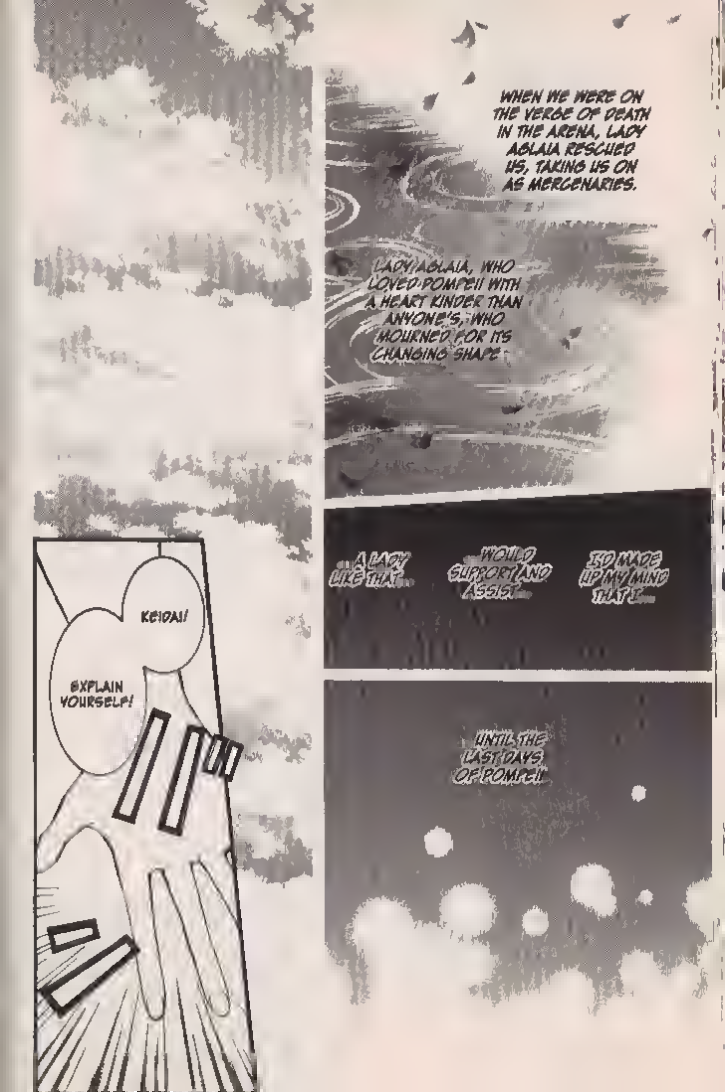

NG LIFE
scene18


I'm often asked "How do you come up with your stories?"
Nooo I can't come up with anything
Hmmm what should I do?
The flow of my story creation five days before the "nama deadline
I don't even feel like coming up with anything!
I forget how to draw manga.
I'm really screwed I gotta come up with something quick
Three days before the nama deadline
How did I draw until now...
Pat pat pat pat
Hated by my cat for loving it a little too much
I'm sorry for being such an idiot
Two days before (I peek into my little sister's room.)
Something happens!
What
I got the nama done?!
Two days later Beginning the rough draft

A True-Life
No-Good Life.

Rinse and repeat into oblivion
Sometimes there are times when even two days after the deadline, it's not done


...AS SOMEONE I MET IN A FARAWAY PAST.
SHE HAS THE SAME SOUL....
WHEN I LOOKED INTO HER EYES, I KNEW.
NG LIFE
scene19


KEIOA!
EXPLAIN YOURSELF!
WHEN WE WERE ON THE VERGE OF DEATH IN THE ARENA, LADY AGLAIA RESCUED US, TAKING US ON AS MERCENARIES.
LADY AGLAIA, WHO LOVED POMPEII WITH A HEART KINDER THAN ANYONE'S, WHO MOURNED FOR ITS CHANGING SHAPE
A LADY LIKE THAT
WOULD SUPPORT AND ASSIST
SO MADE UP MY MIND THAT I
UNTIL THE LAST DAYS OF POMPEII

SO YOU DRAGGED SOME GIRL PASSED OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET HOME WITH YOU, AND...
THIS IS A BIG MISUNDER-STANDING!
Sheesh!
WHO IS SHE? AND WHAT ABOUT MII-CHAN?
BRINGING HOME ANOTHER GIRL?!
DON'T MAKE IT SOUND SO INDECENT!
SINCE AOLAIA-SAN COLLAPSED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET, SHE SPENT THE NIGHT AT THE SAEKI RESIDENCE.
SHE HAD A SLIGHT FEVER, BUT I COULDN'T CONTACT HER HOUSE BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T HAVE A CELL PHONE OR ANYTHING. AND BESIDES...
I HAD NO CHOICE, YOU KNOW?
YOU SAID "HIT ME," DIDN'T YOU?
THAT HURT, YOU BASTARD!
FORGIVE ME!
DAH!
I DESERVE TO BE SMACKED FOR THESE THOUGHTS!!
SOMEONE PLEASE HIT ME...
THERE'RE ALSO SOME THINGS I WANT TO TALK TO HER ABOUT...
NOOO...
OH, RIT--RIGHT, SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY MEMORIES.

ER... NO, THAT'S...
TO HAVE LADY AGLAIA PROSTRATE HERSELF
Gubi
BY MY SHAMEFUL BEHAVIOR IN AGGRAVATING A COLD, FORCING ME TO STAY THE NIGHT. AND AT THE HOUSE OF UTTER STRANGERS, NO LESS
I'VE CAUSED YOU A GRAVE INCONVENIENCE...
AFTER CATCHING A COLD, YESTERDAY I REMAINED AT HOME OBEDIENTLY. BUT..
BUT HOW DID YOU END UP FAINTING THERE, OF ALL PLACES?
DO NOT WORRY ABOUT ME. I AM SILENCING MY HUNGER PAINS WITH SHEER WILLPOWER
And please pick your head up off the floor!
PLEASE JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST FIRST.
IT'S NOT WORKING
...ONCE NOON ARRIVED, I SUDDENLY FOUND MYSELF WANTING TO EAT A TSUKUMI SUPERMARKET BOXED LUNCH. THUS, I LEFT THE HOUSE TAKING WITH ME ONE WALLET, BUT ON THE WAY THERE WAS A CHILD WHO SAID THAT HE HAD LOST ALL HIS MONEY AND WHEN I GAVE HIM MY WHOLE WALLET I THEN HAD NO FUNDS FOR THE RETURN TRAIN TICKET HOME, SO I ATTEMPTED TO WALK HOME BY MYSELF AND OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOUSE I FOUND I'D USED UP ALL MY STRENGTH. THAT IS WHY.
SHE'S DEFINITELY LADY AGLAIA, ALL RIGHT.

AHH, WHY!
WHY DOESN'T SHE HAVE ANY MEMORIES?!
IF YOU HAVE A COLD, THEN PERHAPS SOMETHING TO RESTORE YOUR STRENGTH.
NOW, IF YOU'LL PARDON ME
MY COLD IS BETTER
IF IT WASN'T HER...
...THEN WHO CALLED REINA "SERENA"?
SHUNA-SAN, OPEN WIDE!
I HAVE TO TALK TO REINA ONE MORE TIME...
Ahh?
A bread roll
Nom
gurgle gurgle
IF YOU ARE HEADED HOME, I SHALL ESCORT YOU.
SO THAT GUY MUST HAVE MEMORIES
SHUNA-SAN!
THAT GUY...!

I CANNOT GO HOME.
しょぼっ
NOT ONLY WAS I PROVIDED SHELTER, BUT A MEAL AS WELL?
I MUST MAKE SOME SORT OF REPAY-MENT!
YOU ONLY HAD ONE MOUTHFUL!!
You're as duty-bound as ever aren't you?
I CANNOT RETURN HOME IN SO SHAMELESS A MANNER!
...IF YOU ABSOLU-TELY FEEL YOU MUST...
ALTHOUGH THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO DO ANYTHING...
...HOW ABOUT THIS? CLEAN KEIDAI'S ROOM.
We'll provide you with pizza for lunch.
Besides I'm bored
YOU JUST WANT A CHANCE TO GO THROUGH MY STUFF, DON'T YOU?
Busted, I'm sure
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WITH FALSERENA AND KEIDAI YESTERDAY AFTER SCHOOL, AREN'T YOU?
C'MON, SERIZAWA-SAN, HURRY
YUUMA-KUN, IT'S FINE!
YUUMA-KUN!!
Let it go!
LET'S ASK HIM DIRECTLY.

OH!
I-I-IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK, SERENA!! I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR...
Gnuh!
I'M NOT SERENA!! GET SOME GLASSES, YOU LAME-O!!
YOU BASTARD!!
BRINGING HOME ANOTHER GIRL AGAIN?! JEEZ, KEIDAI, I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!
WHAT HAPPENED, REINA?!
TO MAKE YOU CUT OFF ALL YOUR BEAUTIFUL HAIR!
CALMING DOWN.
I'M A GUY!
YOU HAVE NO BREASTS EITHER
WHOA!

BECAUSE IT SOUNDED FUN, THE REINA'S ROOM INVESTIGATION CLEANING SQUAD (APRONS BORROWED FROM MOMMY RENKA)
MY NAME IS SHUNA SAKAKIBARA.
SHE'S REINA'S BIG SISTER?!
THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR MY SISTER.
LET'S SEE, SHALL I SLICE MY STOMACH OPEN?
I SHALL APOLOGIZE
DID MY SISTER DO SOMETHING RUDE?
PLEASE DON'T COMMIT SUICIDE IN MY ROOM!
YOU TRULY DO RESEMBLE MY LITTLE SISTER
DON'T PUT ME IN THE SAME BOAT AS THAT WEIRDO!
WHAT?
NOT!
A FLOWER IN EACH HAND FOR SURE!
SO BOTH SISTERS AT ONCE, EH?
SO...SO CUTE...!

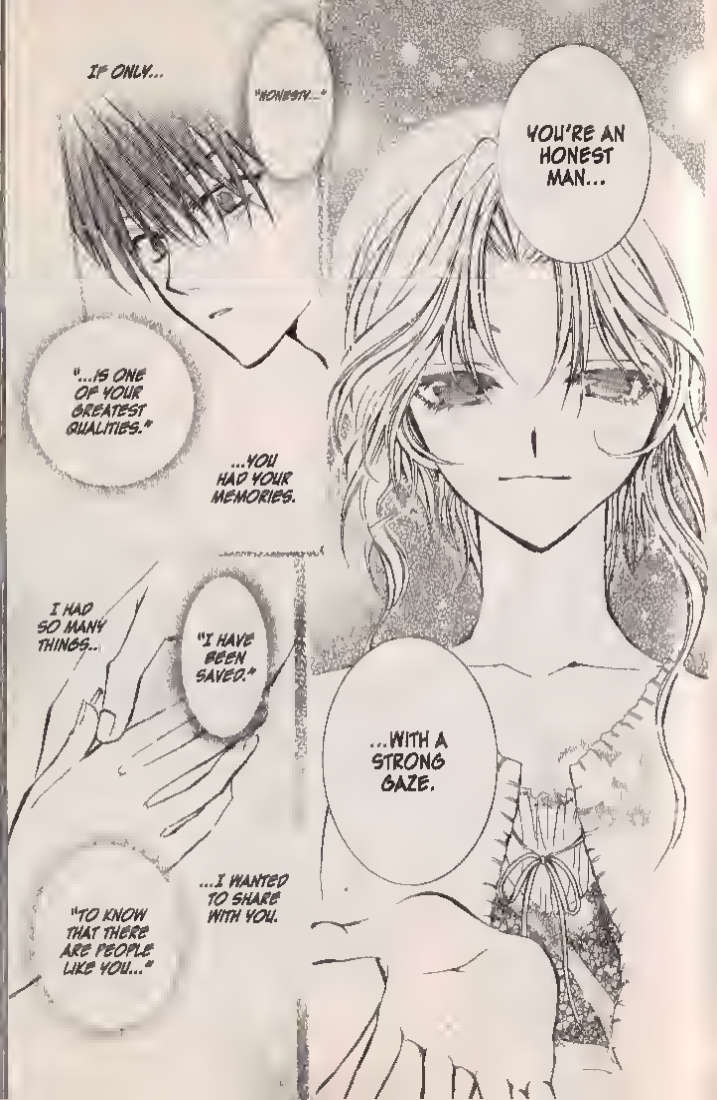
...I AM QUITE FOND OF REINA.
SO YOU GET ALONG WELL WITH YOUR LITTLE SISTER, HUH?
SEE!
I'm an only child so I'm so jealous
WHILE I DON'T KNOW IF I'D SAY WE GET ALONG WELL...
IT SEEMS WHEN I WAS TWO YEARS OF AGE, I EVEN GAVE REINA HER NAME.
SO COOL...
SHE'S ALREADY GOT YUUMA SMOOCHING OVER HER?!
As expected from Lady Aglaia
THAT'S WHAT MY PARENTS HAVE SAID.
.....
THAT'S RIGHT.
TWO YEARS OLD?!
Wow!
SO THAT MAKES YOU 17 YEARS OLD NOW?
We're the same age then
I DON'T REMEMBER IT WELL
IT SEEMS UPON SEEING MY NEWBORN SISTER ..
...I CALLED HER "REINA."
ALL RIGHT... I WILL SOON BEGIN IN EARNEST
...TO REPAY THE FAVOR OF A NIGHT'S LODGING AND A MEAL
I'LL HELP OUT TOO!
COME ON, I TOLD YOU GUYS YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING!

THAT'S EVEN WORSE!
OOH! I FOUND KEI-CHAN'S PHOTO ALBUM!
FULL OF CANDID PHOTOS OF YUUMA AND SERIZAWA.
GAAHH! DAMMIT, YUUMA!
I FOUND A DIARY!
SERENA DREAM DIARY
THAT'S WHY I SAID YOU DON'T NEED TO DO...
RIGHT?
WELL, THERE'S NOWHERE IN YOUR ROOM TO REALLY ORGANIZE.
YOU GUYS AREN'T HELPING AT ALL!
A FULLY FUN-LOVING BLOOD TYPE B
AN IMPRECISE BLOOD TYPE O
A METHODICAL BLOOD TYPE A.
WE'RE THE SAME AGE--THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO FORMAL WITH ME.
IT IS DANGEROUS, SO ALLOW ME TO DO IT.
AND WITH YOUR OWN HANDKERCHIEF, EVEN...
BUT I THOUGHT I WOULD WIPE DOWN THE WINDOW...
BLOOD TYPE O FOR SURE
This is the second floor!
GAAAHHH! SHUNA-SAN, BE CAREFUL!

NOW...
...CAN I GET CLOSE TO YOU?
I DID NOT MEAN TO CAUSE YOU TO MAKE SUCH A FACE.
WE'RE NO STRANGERS.
...LADY ABIAIL.
HOW HAD I...
...BROKEN TO SERIZAWA NO SHIINA?
I GUESS THE ALLEGIANCE I SWORE TO YOU...
...IS USELESS IN THE PRESENT...
IF ...
STRANGERS...
WELL... WE'RE STRANGERS WHO HAVE ONLY JUST MET, SO IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
OH?
FORGIVE ME FOR EARLIER.
WHEN I SAID I DID NOT KNOW YOU, YOU MADE SUCH A TERRIBLY FORLORN FACE.
YOU HAD ME CONFUSED WITH SOMEONE ELSE, DID YOU NOT?

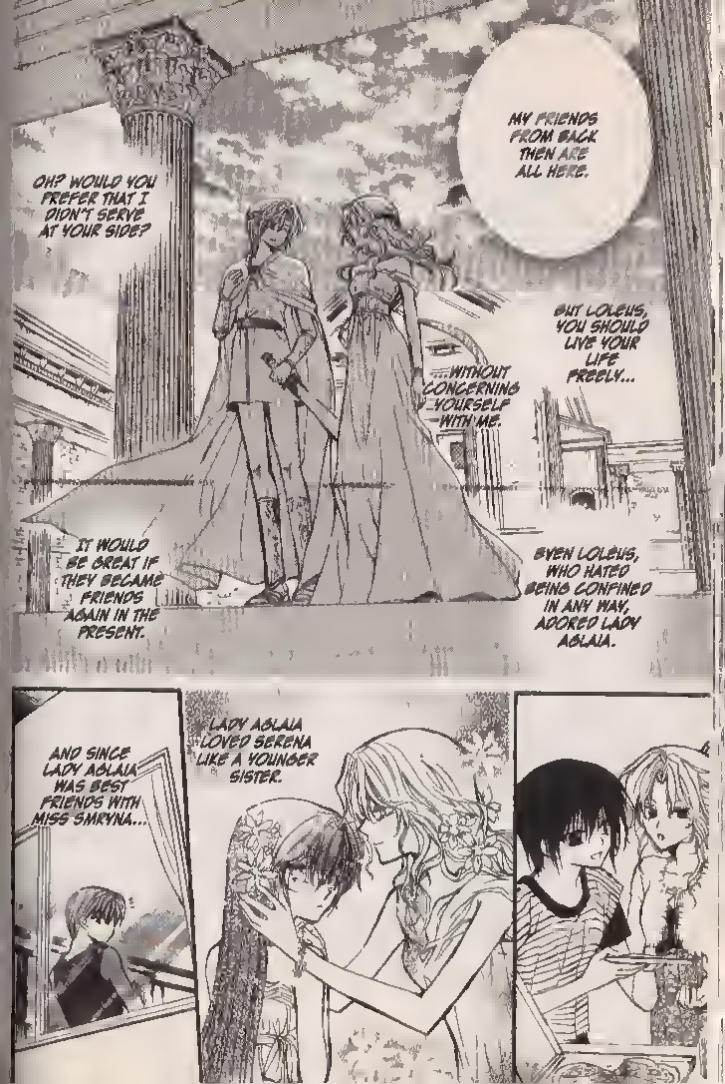
AH...
LADY...
...AGLAIA...

IF IT PLEASES YOU, WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE FRIENDS?
S-S-S-SO SORRY. IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T.
AND MY FORMALITY TOO, IT'S SOMETHING OF A HABIT.
PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
Hee hee hee!
I DON'T MIND AT ALL, BUT...
..I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR FULL NAME YET.
AH..
YES.
IT'S KEIDAI...
...SAEKI


IF ONLY...
"HONESTY..."
"...IS ONE OF YOUR GREATEST QUALITIES."
...YOU HAD YOUR MEMORIES.
YOU'RE AN HONEST MAN...
...WITH A STRONG GAZE.
I HAD SO MANY THINGS..
"I HAVE BEEN SAVED."
...I WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU.
"TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU..."

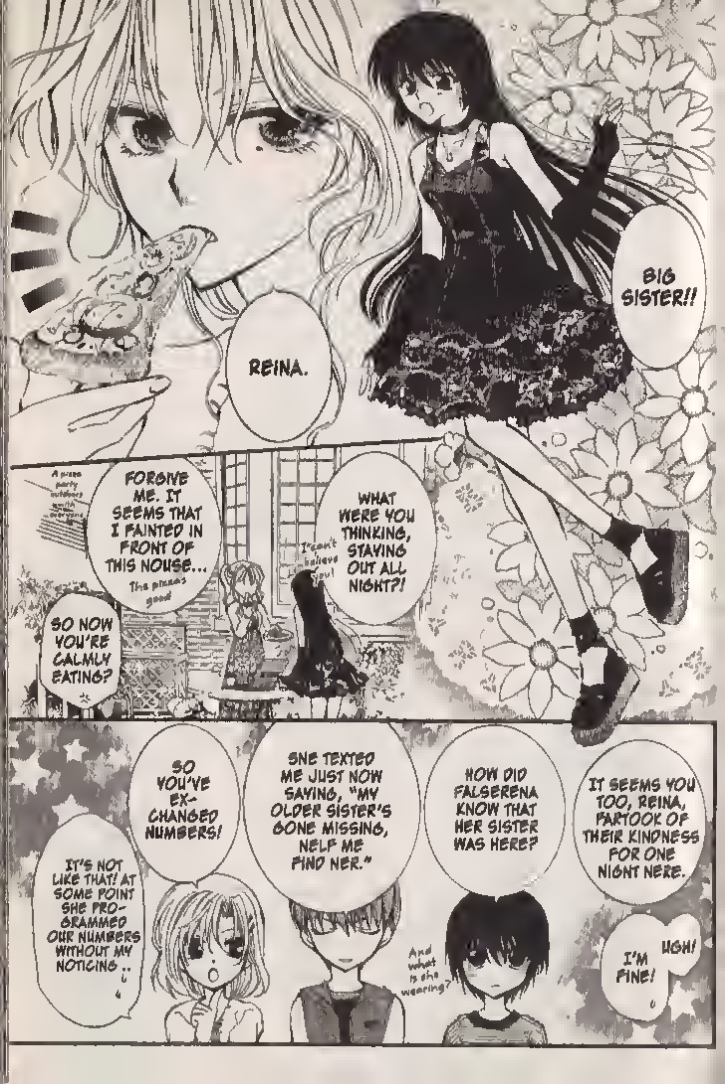
"...IN POMPEII."
LADY AGLAIA...
...I'M HERE.
COULD I
...TAKE A PLACE AT YOUR SIDE AGAIN?

GOOD FOR YOU!
WHA?
HOW'D YOU KNO--
BECAUSE YOU'RE ALL MISTY-EYED.
トーントーン
HEY
IS SHINA-CHAN MAYBE A FRIEND FROM YOUR PAST LIFE?
A SCENE LIKE A MIRACLE...


MY FRIENDS FROM BACK THEN ARE ALL HERE.
OH? WOULD YOU PREFER THAT I DIDN'T SERVE AT YOUR SIDE?
BUT LOLEUS, YOU SHOULD LIVE YOUR LIFE FREELY...
...WITHOUT CONCERNING YOURSELF WITH ME.
IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THEY BECAME FRIENDS AGAIN IN THE PRESENT.
EVEN LOLEUS, WHO HATED BEING CONFINED IN ANY WAY, ADORED LADY AGLAIA.
AND SINCE LADY AGLAIA WAS BEST FRIENDS WITH MISS SMRYNA...
LADY AGLAIA LOVED SERENA LIKE A YOUNGER SISTER.

WHEN HE LOOKS IN HER EYES, HE'LL KNOW...
HEY, IDIOT, QUIT TUGGING ON ME.
C'MERE, C'MERE.
SHINOGU-SAN, WAIT A SEC.
HUH?
SHINOGU-SAN!
WHAT THE...
...THAT SHE HAS THE SAME SOUL...
...AS THAT PERSON HE MET IN THE FARAWAY PAST.

...WERE BORN TO BE REUNITED ONCE MORE.
WE...


BIG SISTER!!
REINA.
FORGIVE ME. IT SEEMS THAT I FAINTED IN FRONT OF THIS HOUSE...
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING, STAYING OUT ALL NIGHT?!
SO NOW YOU'RE CALMLY EATING?
IT SEEMS YOU TOO, REINA, PARTOOK OF THEIR KINDNESS FOR ONE NIGHT HERE.
HOW DID FALSERENA KNOW THAT HER SISTER WAS HERE?
SHE TEXTED ME JUST NOW SAYING, "MY OLDER SISTER'S GONE MISSING, HELP ME FIND HER."
SO YOU'VE EX-CHANGED NUMBERS!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! AT SOME POINT SHE PRO-GRAMMED OUR NUMBERS WITHOUT MY NOTICING..
And what is she wearing?
UGH!
I'M FINE!

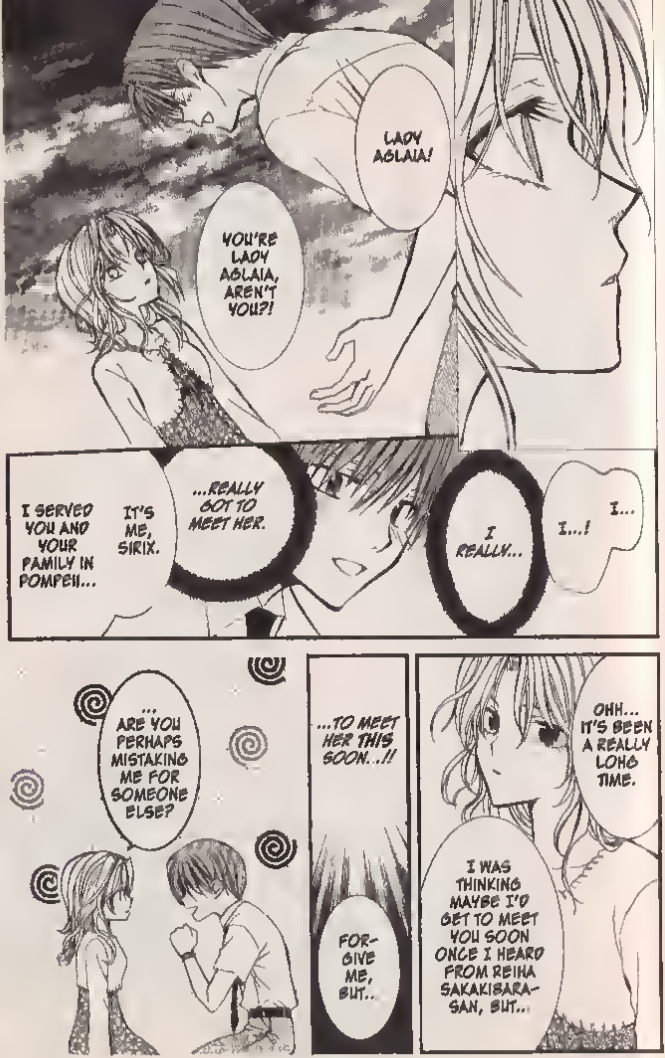
THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF ME.
WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AT SCHOOL NEXT TIME!
BUT SHE PASSED OUT ON HER WAY TO BUY A SUPERMARKET BOXED LUNCH...?
They must be crazy rich. Complete with a driver
BUT WHAT A SWEET RIDE...
Shuma will be joining them at school.
AWW! THIS WASN'T HOW I WANTED YOU AND MY BIG SISTER TO MEET.
THAT GUY... HE'S NOT HERE, ALTHOUGH I THOUGHT I'D SEE HIM.
PLEASE, FORGET ABOUT IT...
Is there something wrong with my face?
Now, when will I get to see you again?
I'VE MANAGED TO MAKE TWO MEN CRY TODAY.
Devil, boy.
...BEGGARS CAN'T BE CHOOSERS, AND WE GOT TO BECOME FRIENDS.
EVEN THOUGH I WAS A LITTLE SAD AT FIRST BECAUSE I'D BEEN EXPECTING HER TO HAVE HER MEMORIES...
NO, I'M GLAD I GOT TO MEET HER.

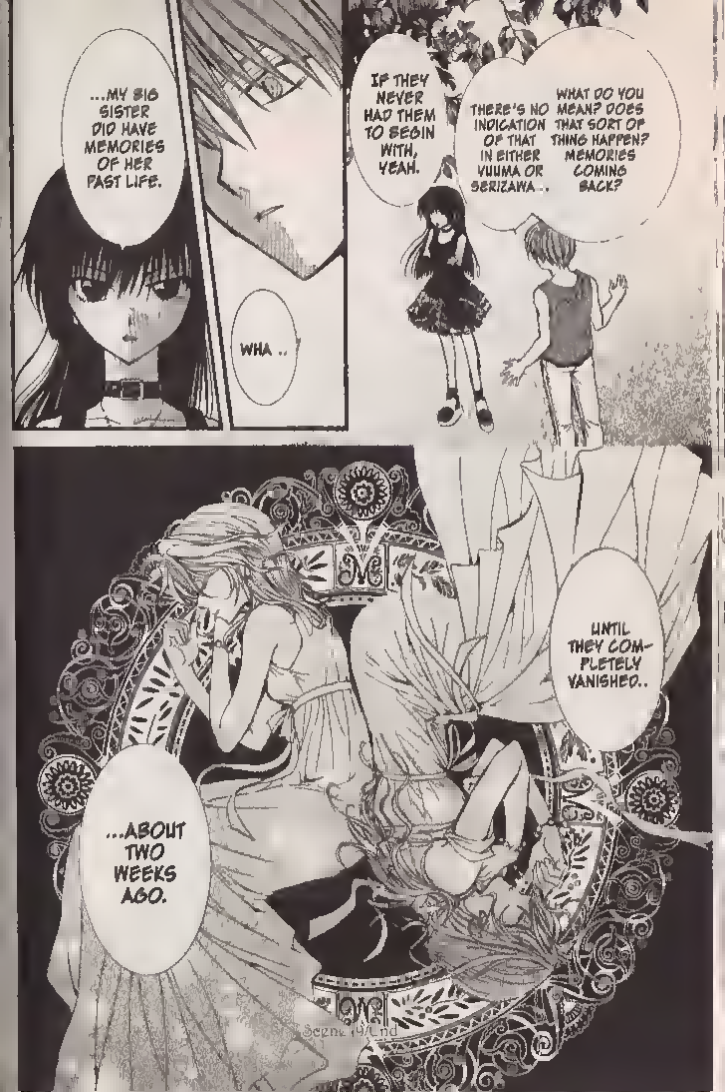
...SO IT DIDN'T WORK AFTER ALL.
BY THE WAY, THE GUY WHO CAME TO PICK YOU UP YESTERDAY...
SHE STILL COULDN'T REMEMBER.
HM?
I THOUGHT IF MY BIG SISTER MET YOU AND HER OTHER FRIENDS..
...THAT MAYBE HER MEMORIES OF HER PAST LIFE...
... WOULD COME BACK.

Just a little while back this thing called the Brain Maker was really popular. According to my friend, the brain of Mizuho Kusanagi is composed of

ALL EVIL

What the heck kinds of bad things am I thinking? And why does it have to be so devoutly "evil"? Then again, I'm often asked, "Are you a sadist or a masochist?" I don't think I'm either, but according to my horoscope (?), I often end up as a "Super S." Why oh why? I know for sure I'm not an M, but I'm pretty sure that I'm not an S either. Probably. Of all the NG characters, the one that's like me the most is probably a combination of Kwame Serizawa and Marina Serizawa-ish. I guess? (Because they're both mangaka.) Guess that's pretty evil.


LADY AGLAIA!
YOU'RE LADY AGLAIA, AREN'T YOU?!
I...!
I...
I REALLY...
...REALLY GOT TO MEET HER.
IT'S ME, SIRIX.
I SERVED YOU AND YOUR FAMILY IN POMPEII...
OHH... IT'S BEEN A REALLY LONG TIME.
I WAS THINKING MAYBE I'D GET TO MEET YOU SOON ONCE I HEARD FROM REIHA SAKAKIBARA-SAN, BUT...
...TO MEET HER THIS SOON...!!
FOR-GIVE ME, BUT..
..., ARE YOU PERHAPS MISTAKING ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE?


...MY BIG SISTER DID HAVE MEMORIES OF HER PAST LIFE.
WHA ..
IF THEY NEVER HAD THEM TO BEGIN WITH, YEAH.
THERE'S NO INDICATION OF THAT IN EITHER YUUMA OR SERIZAWA..
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? DOES THAT SORT OF THING HAPPEN? MEMORIES COMING BACK?
UNTIL THEY COMPLETELY VANISHED..
...ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO.

ALTHOUGH THE REINA SAKAKIBARA YOU SPEAK OF IS MY YOUNGER SISTER.
NO! BUT YOU'RE...
ER, WHAT?!
AS THAT IS HARDLY MY NAME...
...AND I'M SURE THAT YOU AND I HAVE NEVER MET.
THEN YOU ARE...
MY NAME IS SHUNA SAKAKIBARA.
HER BIG SISTER...!!
REINA'S OLDER SISTER.

ARE YOU A FRIEND OF REINA'S?
NOW THAT I FINALLY GOT TO MEET HER AGAIN, WHAT SHOULD I SAY TO HER, I WONDER?
...DON'T TELL ME THAT...
...SHE... DOESN'T?
SO THAT'S HOW SHE KNEW ABOUT LADY AGLAIA.
BUT THAT'S STRANGE.
FROM WHAT SAKURA-SAN WAS SAYING, I THOUGHT THAT LADY AGLAIA WOULD HAVE MEMORIES OF HER PAST LIFE, BUT...
Am I her friend?
AH.. YES.
OH! NOW... FORGIVE ME FOR IMPEDING YOUR PASSAGE
WAIT A SECOND
AH!
LADY AGLAIA!!
In Reina's empty heavens I had thought she would...

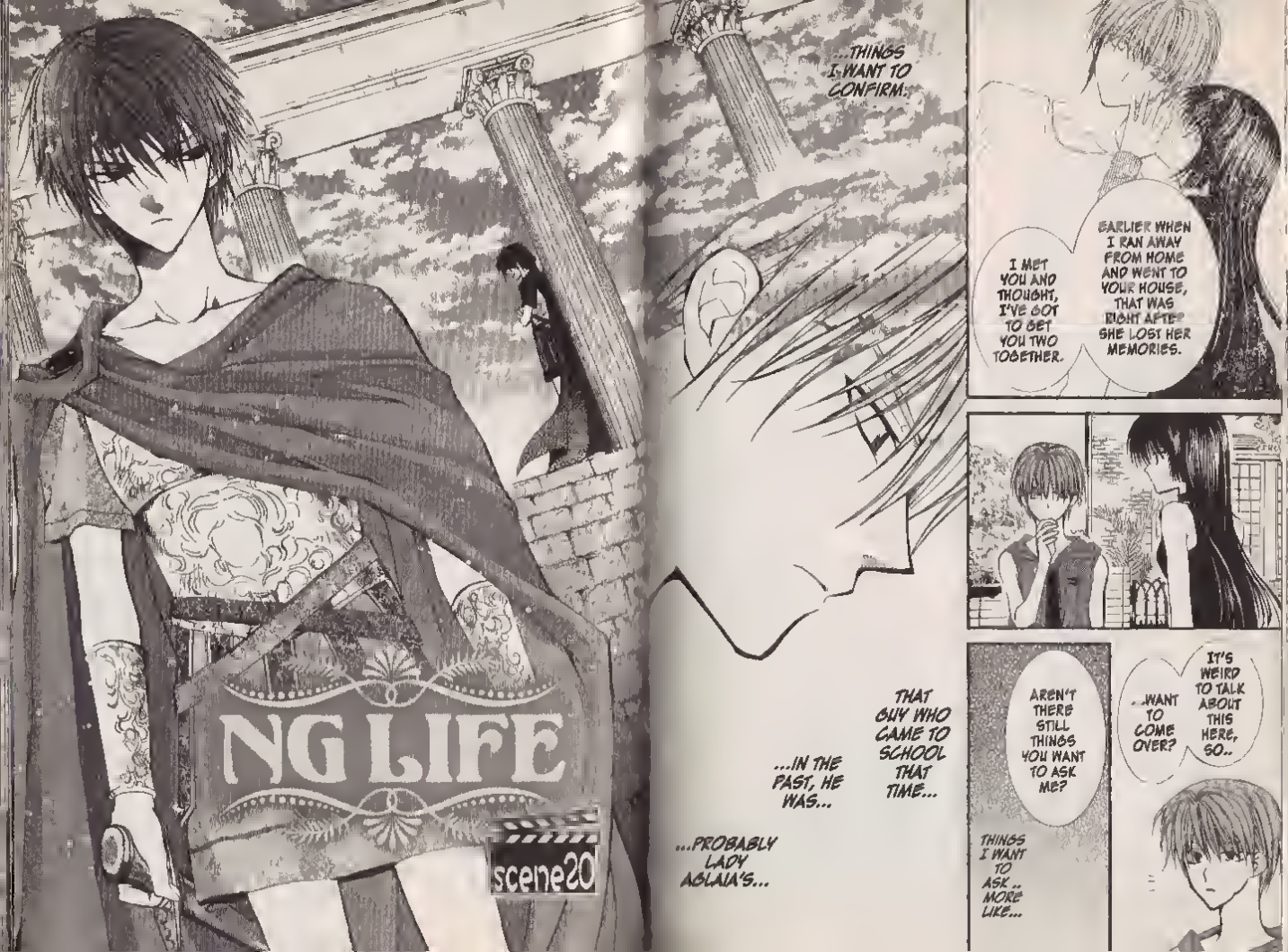
...BUY THIS FLOWER.
PLEASE
...LOLEUS?
YEAH RIGHT, LIKE I'D HAVE THAT MUCH ON ME.
HOW MUCH IS IT?
HELLO THERE! WHAT A PRETTY FLOWER.
THREE COPPERS

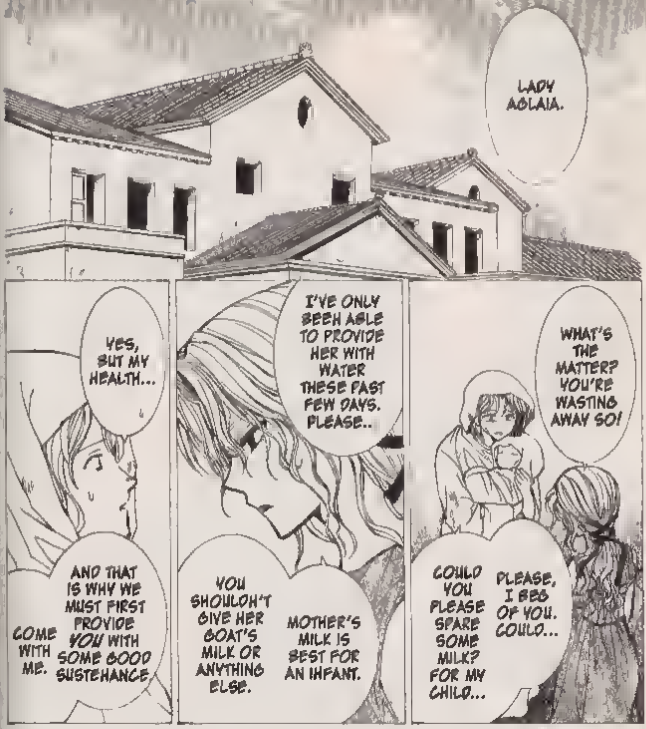
LADY AGLAIA.
I SHALL PURCHASE IT.
Fwy...
KEEP IT, PLEASE.
THANK YOU!
AH!
I know nothing of that!
BUT SMYRNA, YOU YOURSELF WERE PREPARED TO GIVE HIM THE RING ON YOUR FINGER, WERE YOU NOT?
YOU'RE BEING TOO GENEROUS, GIVING HIM TEN COPPERS
That was sooo cool!

BUT WHAT THAT MAN IS DOING IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOUR KIND HEART, LADY AGLAIA...
SIRIX.
HAD I NOT PURCHASED THE FLOWER, THAT CHILD WOULD HAVE BEEN FLOGGED.
THAT MAN ...!
I'M GOING TO GO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT WITH HIM
WHAT A BASTARD! USING THAT CHILD TO STEAL MONEY FROM THE POPULACE
DON'T.
IF HE BRINGS BACK MORE MONEY THAN EXPECTED, HE WILL RECEIVE A LITTLE MORE BREAD.
SHE'S SURE GOT YOU PEGGED, SIRIX. THAT ONE-TRACK MIND OF YOURS CAN BE A WEAKNESS.
YES, MA'AM
GUH!
WHILE HONESTY IS ONE OF YOUR GREATEST QUALITIES, AT TIMES IT'S IMPORTANT TO SIT BACK A BIT AND LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE BEFORE YOU ACT.
LADY AGLAIA, IN FULL AWARENESS OF EVERYTHING, GAVE HIM TEN COPPERS...?

POMPEII RIGHT NOW IS SATED BY HATRED AND LUST.
NEARLY DROWNED IN PLEASURE, IT TOYS IDLY WITH LIFE.
TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU IN THIS POMPEII...
NO...
TRULY, I HAVE ALSO BEEN SAVED BY IT
I WANT TO CHANGE THIS CITY.
BEFORE THE WRATH OF THE GODS FALLS UPON US.
LADY AGLAIA FELIX SAVED OUR LIVES, MINE AND LOLEUS'.
I WILL ACCOMPANY YOU
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

UNTIL TWO WEEKS AGO, SHUNA-SAN REMEMBERED POMPEII...?!
THAT'S ONLY RECENTLY.
NO WAY...
TWO WEEKS AGO...
JUST HOW...
I DON'T KNOW. THEY JUST SUDDENLY VANISHED...
...LIKE A SWITCH HAD BEEN FLIPPED.


NG LIFE
scene20
...THINGS I WANT TO CONFIRM.
I MET YOU AND THOUGHT, I'VE GOT TO GET YOU TWO TOGETHER.
EARLIER WHEN I RAN AWAY FROM HOME AND WENT TO YOUR HOUSE, THAT WAS RIGHT AFTER SHE LOST HER MEMORIES.
THAT GUY WHO CAME TO SCHOOL THAT TIME...
...IN THE PAST, HE WAS...
...PROBABLY LADY AGLAIA'S...
AREN'T THERE STILL THINGS YOU WANT TO ASK ME?
THINGS I WANT TO ASK .. MORE LIKE...
..WANT TO COME OVER?
IT'S WEIRD TO TALK ABOUT THIS HERE, SO..


LADY AGLAIA.
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'RE WASTING AWAY SO!
PLEASE, I BEG OF YOU. COULD...
COULD YOU PLEASE SPARE SOME MILK? FOR MY CHILD...
I'VE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE HER WITH WATER THESE FAST FEW DAYS. PLEASE..
MOTHER'S MILK IS BEST FOR AN INFANT.
YOU SHOULDN'T GIVE HER GOAT'S MILK OR ANYTHING ELSE.
YES, BUT MY HEALTH...
COME WITH ME.
AND THAT IS WHY WE MUST FIRST PROVIDE YOU WITH SOME GOOD SUSTENANCE.

Special Thanks!

My Assistants → Mikorun-sama, Rurunga-sama, Kyoko-sama, my little sister-sama, and my spur of the moment assistant, Saorin-sama

To everyone that cheers me on and supports me, my family and friends. My manager and everyone on the editorial staff

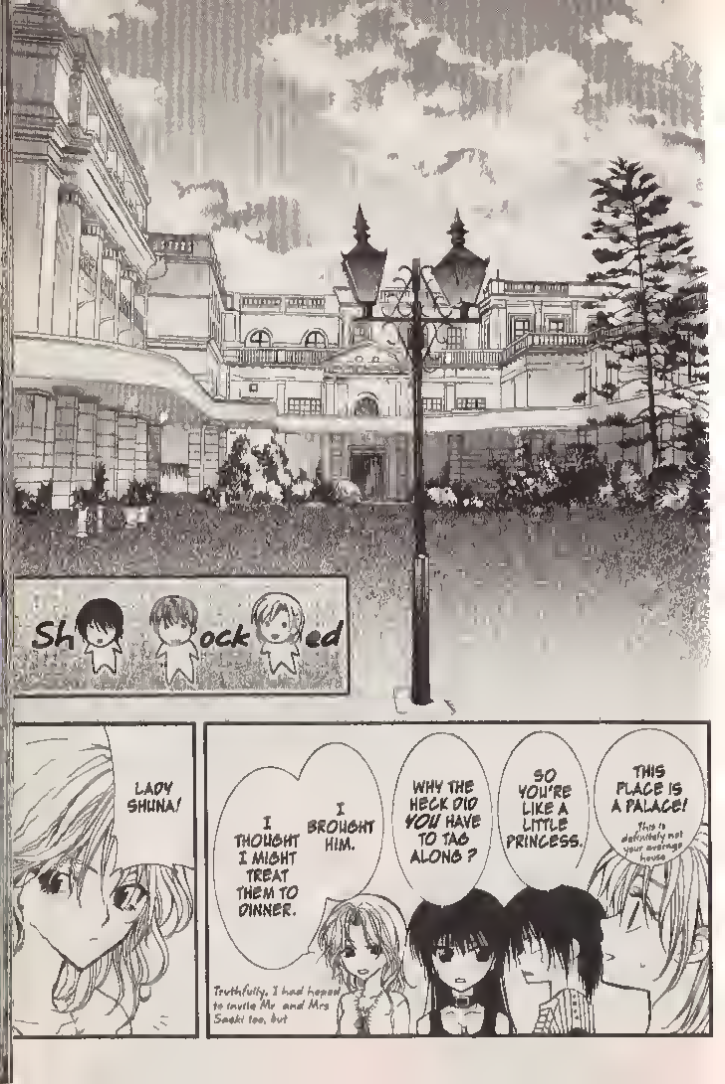
To everyone who was involved in the production of this collected volume

And to all my readers who follow my manga

I love you all! – Now I'm blushing!!!

SO THAT MAKES HOW MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN SAVED BY LADY AGLAIA, I WONDER?
THA... THANK YOU SO MUCH!
Hah
YOU TWO ARE SO SIMPLE.
DELOS.
...WHEN IT COMES TO HER, SHE LENDS A HAND TO ALL THE POOR AND NEEDY.
THE HOUSE OF FELIX IS NOBILITY, BUT THEY ARE NOT VERY AFFLUENT. AND YET...
ALL OF THAT IS TO GAIN VOTES...
...SO THAT IN THE NEXT ELECTION, THE HOUSE OF FELIX CAN STRENGTHEN THEIR STATUS.
SHE IS TRULY KIND.

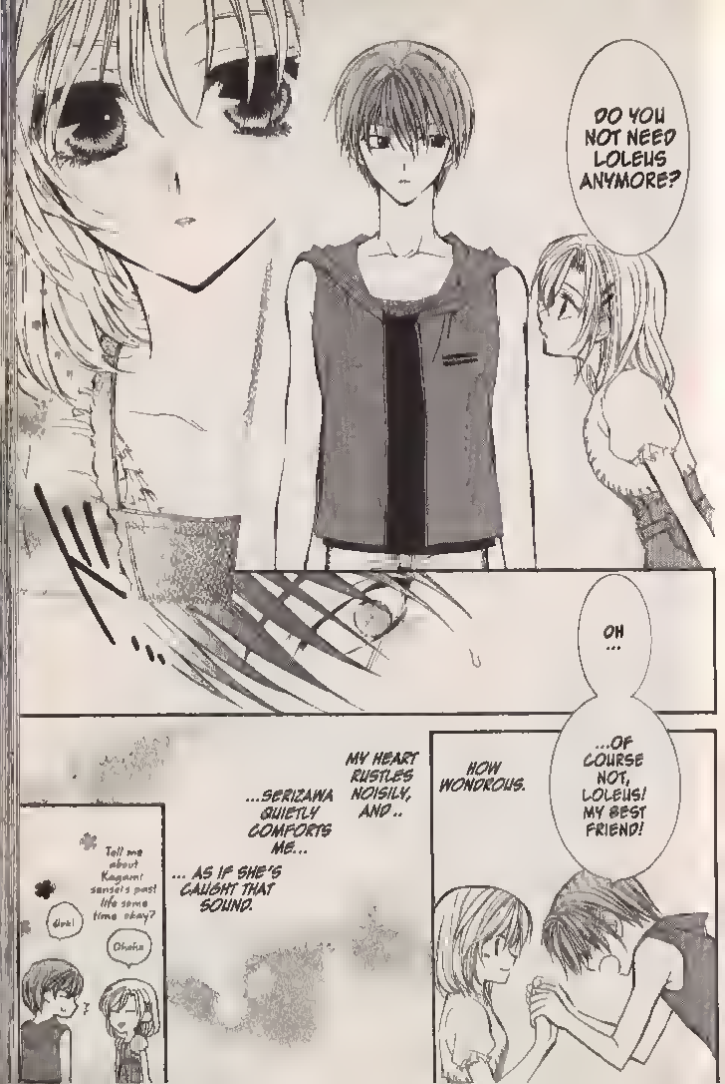
NOW NOW, SIRIX.
ARE YOU SPOUTING THAT AGAIN?
HOW IS IT THAT WHILE CONTINUING TO SERVE LADY AGLAIA, YOU REJECT WHO SHE IS AT HEART?!
HOW ...?
I'VE MADE NO PROMISES TO THAT WOMAN.
I'M ONLY HERE SO LONG AS THEY PAY ME GOOD MONEY.
"BUT A BRAT LIKE YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND, I GUESS."
KEIDAI!
WHAT'S WITH YOU, STARING OFF INTO SPACE?
WE'RE HERE
OH... OKAY.
I MIGHT GET TO MEET SOMEONE INVOLVED IN MY PAST LIFE.
SO WHY IS IT THAT SOMETHING'S MAKING ME NERVOUS...


Shocked
LADY SHUNA!
I THOUGHT I MIGHT TREAT THEM TO DINNER.
I BROUGHT HIM.
WHY THE HECK DID YOU HAVE TO TAG ALONG?
SO YOU'RE LIKE A LITTLE PRINCESS.
THIS PLACE IS A PALACE!
This is definitely not your average house
Truthfully, I had hoped to invite Mr. and Mrs. Saeki too, but

BUT I WANTED TO EAT TSUKUMI SUPER-MARKET'S MINCED-MEAT BOXED LUNCH...
MOREOVER, IF IT WAS A MEAL YOU WANTED, WE WOULD HAVE...
WHICH IS WHY YOU DON'T GO OUT TO BUY IT YOUR-SELF!
real maids!
Wow...
...WE TRY NOT TO LET MY ELDER SISTER CARRY TOO MUCH MONEY WITH HER.
BECAUSE SHE'LL POUR ALL SHE HAS INTO ACTS OF MERCY, FUNDRAISERS, OR VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS IN A HEART-BEAT...
THAT'D BE TOO COMMON, HUH
FORGIVE ME. I WENT OUT TO BUY A BOXED LUNCH AND ON THE WAY...
...I GAVE A CHILD MY WALLET AND COLLAPSED...
YOU WERE OUT THE ENTIRE NIGHT!
MY WORD! WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU GO?
AGAIN? CONSIDER THAT THERE IS A TIME AND PLACE FOR THIS GENEROSITY OF YOURS!
TONIGHT WE'RE HOLDING A BANQUET TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE.
MY FATHER?
WE'LL GO PREPARE SOME TEA FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY.
MY, THANK YOU SO MUCH!
WON'T YOU SHOW THEM SOME HOSPITA-LITY?
THESE PEOPLE HERE TOOK CARE OF ME.

Run run run
WOOWW!
MIKAGE-SAMA HAS ARRIVED TOO.
.....
MUST BE GREAT TO BE RICH!
SERENA!?
HUH?
.....

I HAVE A BAD FEELING
I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT SHINOBU-SAN ALONG AFTER ALL.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
!
WHY KAGAMI-SENSEI?
WELL, BECAUSE THERE'RE SOME THINGS TO DISCUSS AMONGST THOSE WHO REMEMBER THEIR PAST LIVES ..
SE--
SERIZAWA?! DID YOU HEAR THAT?
YUP, THE WHOLE THING.
OH, CRAP! AFTER SHINOBU-SAN WARNED ME ABOUT MENTIONING HIS PAST LIFE!
LATELY, KEI-CHAN, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DISCUSSING YOUR PAST LIFE WITH ME, HUH?


DO YOU NOT NEED LOLEUS ANYMORE?
OH ...
...OF COURSE NOT, LOLEUS! MY BEST FRIEND!
HOW WONDROUS.
MY HEART RUSTLES NOISILY, AND ..
...SERIZAWA QUIETLY COMFORTS ME...
... AS IF SHE'S CAUGHT THAT SOUND.
Tell me about Kagami sensei's past life some time okay?
Uhm!
Ohaka

FROM THE COURT-YARD...
YUUMA?!
YUUMA...!
WHAT'S WRO~
WELL, WELL...
I CAME FOR BOSS SAKAKIBARA'S BANQUET, BUT..
...I'VE BEEN FEELING LIKE I MIGHT BLACK OUT...
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
!
.. BECAUSE I THOUGHT I MIGHT GET TO MEET A CERTAIN PERSON AND ASK HIM SOME THINGS.
I CAME HERE...
A CERTAIN PERSON?
IF MY INTUITION IS CORRECT ...
I WANT TO MEET HIM AND ASK.
.. ABOUT SHUNA-SAN'S MEMORIES...
BUT WHAT IS IT...? SINCE A LITTLE WHILE AGO...

...DID I MISS THE INVITATION...
...FOR THE POMPEII CLASS REUNION?
IT'S HIM...
KEI-CHAN, WHO IS HE?
AHH...
DELOS.
AHAN, WHO WAS A MERCENARY FOR THE HOUSE OF FELIX IN POMPEII, JUST LIKE ME.

UNGH!
NOW THERE'S A MIGHTY FAMILIAR FACE.
HE DOES HAVE MEMORIES—!!
TO THINK THIS MAN IS AT LADY AGLAIA'S SIDE EVEN IN HIS PRESENT LIFE...!!
WHA?!
SOUICHI.
YOU ARE BEING VERY RUDE TO MY FRIENDS. LET YUUMA GO!
..SHUNA... WNY'D YA HIT ME?
.....

YOU COME HOME IN THE MORNING FROM SOME DUDE'S PLACE, AND YOU'RE TRYING TO ROB ME OF MY FUN?
SINCE I'VE GOT AN OLD FLAME HERE...
...I'M JUST TESTING OUT THE EMBRACE.
DON'T BE SO COLD, SERENA.
NOT I HAVE NO CLUE WHO THIS DUDE IS!
...YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
YOU WERE SUCH A SWEET-HEART BACK IN THE DAY.

I received a compilation CD of character image songs for NG Life from my readers. ♥

It was terribly fun. Keidai was really cute from the voice actor's song, and his dad ended up oddly sexy. It's extremely cool for me to see when the readers tell me that Keidai's voice fits with so-and-so's image. ♥

I love voice actors. I also love actors with great voices. ♥ Like Hiroshi Tamaki-san, Tetsuya Fujiwara-san, Takuya Kimura-san, etc. (I was so happy with Howl! (laughs)) I also like wonderful mature male voices.

Tetsuya Watari-san, Kichitemon Nakamura-san, Mansai Nomura-san, Hiroshi Abe-san, etc.—so many. After all, when someone's a wonderful actor, then in turn their voices sound wonderful to me as well. Oh my, that list was all guys, wasn't it? I like actresses' voices too!

WHO ARE YOU CALLING OLD FLAME?!
THE TEA IS READY!
JEEZ!
NOW YOU NOTICE!!
WAIT... WHAT? HUH? A GUY?
YOU, TOO! HANDS OFF!
Hey
How disappointing.

THIS IS BAD... EVEN THOUGH THERE'S SOMEONE WITH MEMORIES HERE...
...WITH EVERYONE ELSE AROUND WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT OUR PAST LIVES AT ALL!!!
E.T.C.
Hmph!
YUUMA UJOH...
I'M MII SERIZAWA.
I... I'M KEIDAI SAEKI.
I HAVEN'T INTRODUCED MYSELF YET, HUH?
I'M SOUICHI MIKAGE.
SHUNA AND REINA'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND... KINDA.
DON'T CALL ME KIDDO.
SORRY ABOUT EARLIER!
DON'T POUT, KIDDO!

...GAH!!
DOES THE KI... YUUMA NOT HAVE ANY MEMORIES?
DO YOU KNOW HER TOO?
...YOU CALLED ME SERENA.
MEMORIES?
OF SOME 2000 YEARS AGO...
AAAAHHH! THIS BLACK FOREST CAKE LOOKS SOOO GOOD! PLEASE TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE IT SOMETIME! ♡
POM...
WHAT ARE YOU, A THREE-YEAR-OLD?!
POM! URRGHH!
BE CAREFUL ABOUT EATING TOO MUCH OF THAT BLACK FOREST CAKE!!
SHUDDER!
SERENA SUUURE WAS A CUTIE, WASN'T SHE?
WAIT. DIDN'T YOU CALL SERENA YOUR OLD FLAME EARLIER?
What about Keiko?

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MANY TIMES I WAS TEMPTED TO JUST EAT HER UP...
RRRA!!
rrrra
RRRR!!
Oh my
YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING ON THE CORNER OF YOUR MOUTH ♡
KEIDAI?
HE'S A DANGEROUS CHARACTER...!
I WANT TO ASK HIM ABOUT SHIINA-SAN...
...BUT I CAN'T JUST CASUALLY BRING UP OUR PAST LIVES!!
TH-THIS GUY...!!

Mixed her up with Lenus →

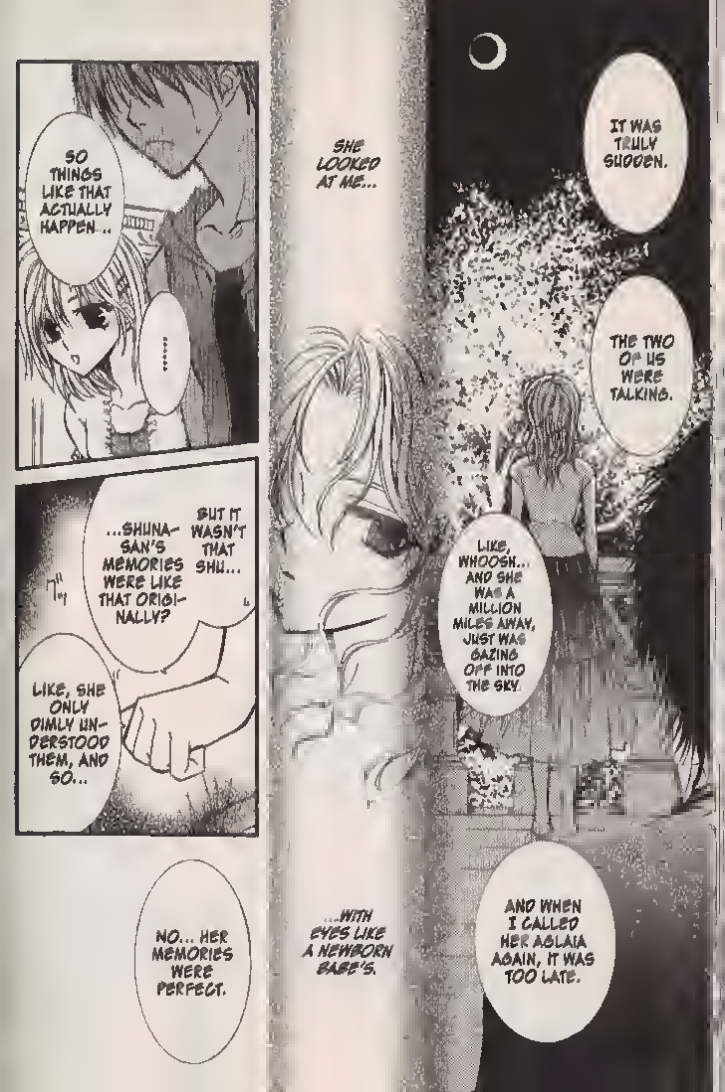
APOLOGIZE TO MII!
SORRY.
I GOT THESE STICKY FINGERS.
UM, SHUNA-CHAN, I'M OKAY..
I was a little shocked though
IF WHAT I SAY MAKES NO SENSE TO YOU...
...THEN LEAVE.
I HAVEN'T CHANGED.
YOU HAVE.
BIG SISTER!
ガタッ!
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE LATELY.
BLURTING OUT THINGS LIKE "MEMORIES" AND PAST LIVES THAT MAKE NO SENSE...
AH...
THIS WHOLE TIME I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO NOTHING BUT UNPLEASANTRIES.

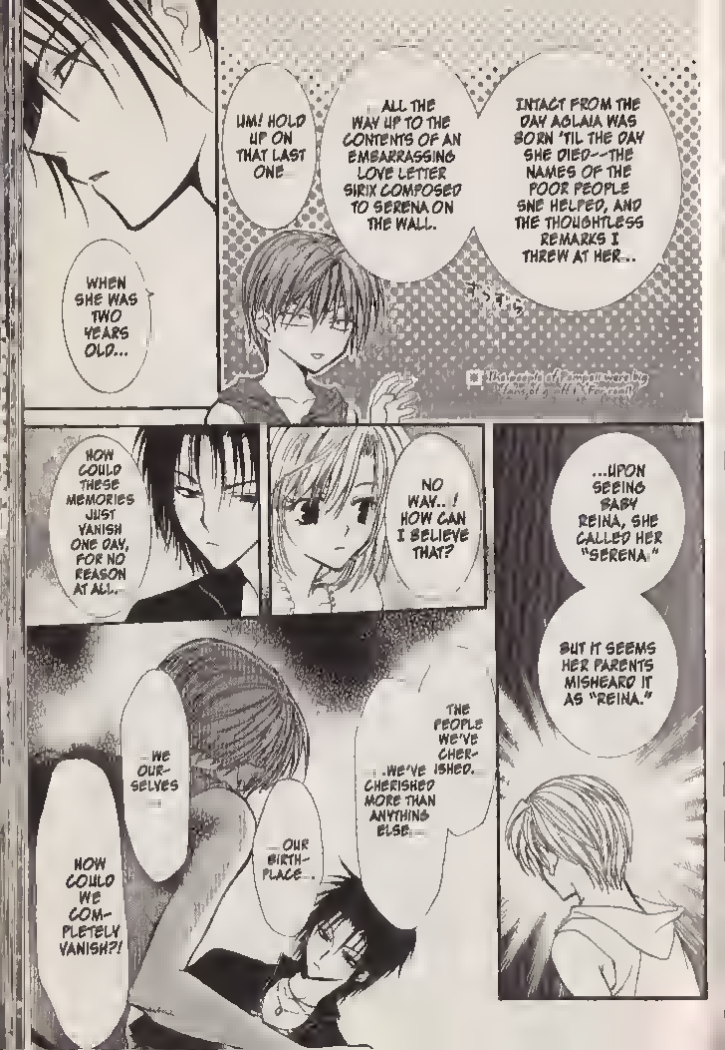
...REINA.
IDIOT.
I'M SORRY.
UH... BUT...
YUUMA, YOU COME TOO!
I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND THE HOUSE!
...NOW THEN...
LONG TIME NO SEE, SIRIX.
LOLEUS.
I'VE TALKED WITH SERIZAWA ABOUT IT, BUT PLEASE DON'T MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT PAST LIVES TO YUUMA.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WITH MY MEMORIES.
...MUCH LESS WITH YOUR MEMORIES INTACT.
WHAT A SHOCK! TO SEE YOU TWO AGAIN...
WHAT'S GETTING ME ALL WORKED UP...?
CALM DOWN.
..SURE HAS BEEN, D&LOS.

LEAVE ME ALONE!
BUT YEAH, NO WAY YOU COULD TELL THAT KIDDO, "IN YOUR PAST LIFE, YOU WERE MY WIFE." PRETTY GROSS, MAN BUT EPIC!
OH MAN, SPEAKING OF SHOCKS! SERENA'S A DUDE AND LOLEUS A BABE!!
I WOULD... NEVER HAVE EXPECTED YOU TO BE BY LADY AGLAIA'S SIDE EVEN AFTER BEING REINCARNATED.
WHY'S THAT? YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
And the one who loved us was Aglaia now known as "Sienna."
BY THE WAY, SO WERE YOU, LOLEUS.
OH, ME AND THIS GUY WERE BOTH MERCE-NARIES FOR THE HOUSE OF FELIX.
OELOS-...SAN. WHAT'S YOUR RELATION TO HIM?
OF COURSE I DON'T.
I WON'T FORGET ...
...YOUR BETRAYAL IN YOUR PAST LIFE.

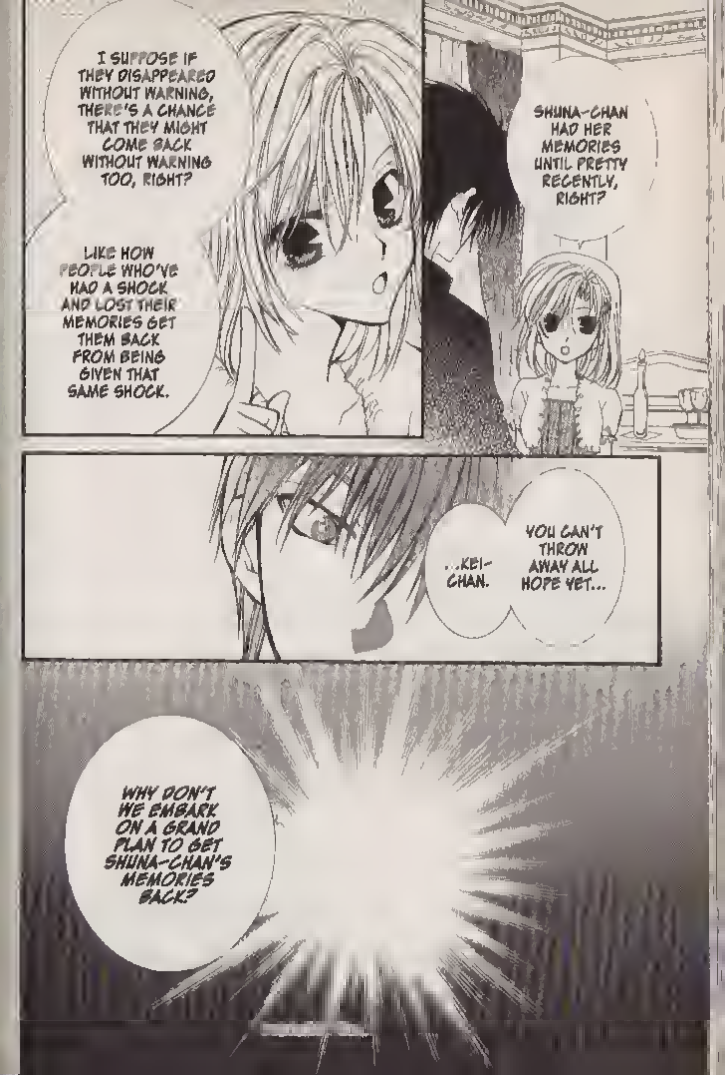
NOW, NOW, KEI-CHAN.
THIS ISN'T POMPEII.
YOU WANTED TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE, RIGHT?
I'M HERE LISTENING WITH YOU...
...SO HOW ABOUT YOU ACT MORE LIKE KEI-CHAN!

I'M GLAD SERIZAWA'S HERE WITH ME.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN? WAS THERE ANY SORT OF WARNING THAT THEY MIGHT VANISH...?
...YEAH.
NOPE...
IS IT TRUE THAT LADY AGLAIA'S... SHUNA-SAN'S MEMORIES VANISHED TWO WEEKS AGO?
.....


IT WAS TRULY SUDDEN.
THE TWO OF US WERE TALKING.
LIKE, WHOOSH... AND SHE WAS A MILLION MILES AWAY, JUST WAS GAZING OFF INTO THE SKY.
AND WHEN I CALLED HER AGLAIA AGAIN, IT WAS TOO LATE.
SHE LOOKED AT ME...
...WITH EYES LIKE A NEWBORN BABE'S.
SO THINGS LIKE THAT ACTUALLY HAPPEN...
.....
BUT IT WASN'T THAT SHU...
...SHUNA-SAN'S MEMORIES WERE LIKE THAT ORIGI-NALLY?
LIKE, SHE ONLY DIMLY UN-DERSTOOD THEM, AND SO...
NO... HER MEMORIES WERE PERFECT.


UM! HOLD UP ON THAT LAST ONE...
ALL THE WAY UP TO THE CONTENTS OF AN EMBARRASSING LOVE LETTER SIRIX COMPOSED TO SERENA ON THE WALL.
INTACT FROM THE DAY AGLAIA WAS BORN 'TIL THE DAY SHE DIED--THE NAMES OF THE POOR PEOPLE SHE HELPED, AND THE THOUGHTLESS REMARKS I THREW AT HER...
WHEN SHE WAS TWO YEARS OLD...
HOW COULD THESE MEMORIES JUST VANISH ONE DAY, FOR NO REASON AT ALL..
NO WAY..! HOW CAN I BELIEVE THAT?
...UPON SEEING BABY REINA, SHE CALLED HER "SERENA."
BUT IT SEEMS HER PARENTS MISHEARD IT AS "REINA."
THE PEOPLE WE'VE CHERISHED. ...WE'VE CHERISHED MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE...
...WE OURSELVES
...OUR BIRTHPLACE...
HOW COULD WE COMPLETELY VANISH?!

.. IT'S INHERENTLY UNNATURAL TO REMEMBER YOUR PAST LIFE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
ARE MY MEMORIES OF SERENA AND LOLEUS AND EVERYTHING GOING TO...?!
NO WAY...
...SOONER OR LATER, SOMEDAY...
IT MIGHT BE THAT UNNATURAL THINGS LIKE THESE WILL ALWAYS VANISH...
...HEY.
WAIT.
IT CAN'T BE....!!
AM I GOING TO VANISH TOO?
AH...
THAT'S WHAT IT WAS
THAT FEELING LIKE I KNOW BLACK CAT...


I SUPPOSE IF THEY DISAPPEARED WITHOUT WARNING, THERE'S A CHANCE THAT THEY MIGHT COME BACK WITHOUT WARNING TOO, RIGHT?
LIKE HOW PEOPLE WHO'VE HAD A SHOCK AND LOST THEIR MEMORIES GET THEM BACK FROM BEING GIVEN THAT SAME SHOCK.
SHUNA-CHAN HAD HER MEMORIES UNTIL PRETTY RECENTLY, RIGHT?
YOU CAN'T THROW AWAY ALL HOPE YET...
...KEI-CHAN.
WHY DON'T WE EMBARK ON A GRAND PLAN TO GET SHUNA-CHAN'S MEMORIES BACK?

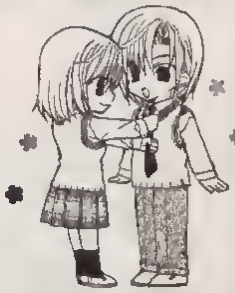
NG LIFE
scene21

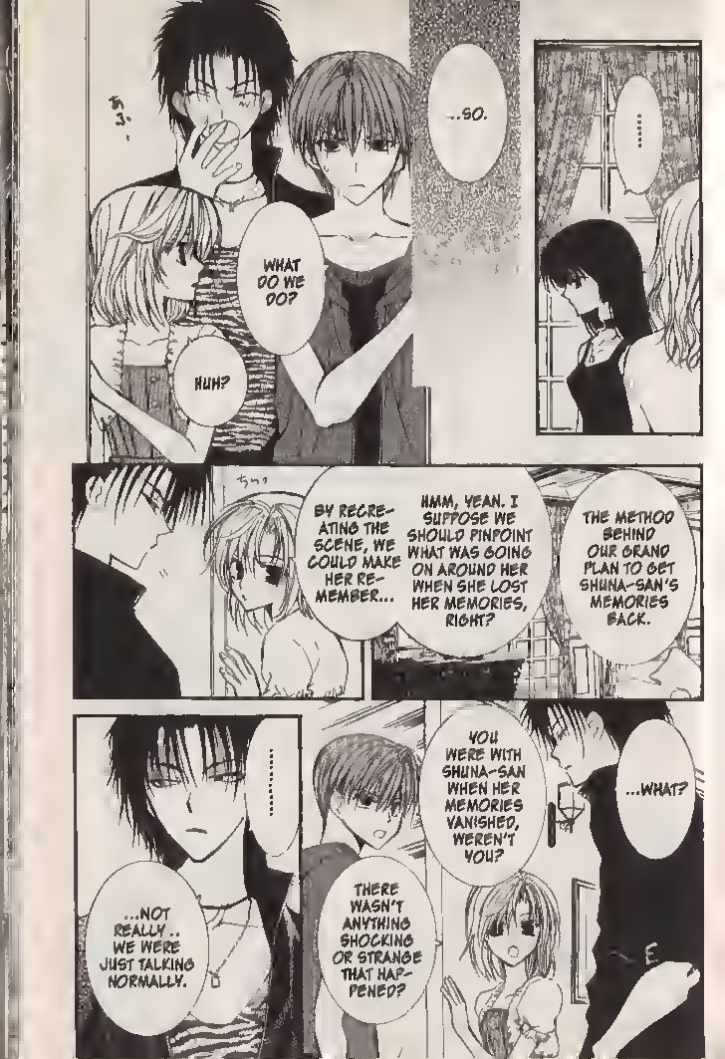
HEY, WAS IT OKAY TO LEAVE KEIOA! AND THE OTHERS BEHIND?
...I'M NOT QUITE SURE MYSELF.
FOR WRECKING THE MOOD BY LEAPING FROM MY SEAT LIKE THAT.
ARE YOU IN A FIGHT WITH THAT MIKAGE GUY?
I APOLO-GIZE, YUUMA.
OF COURSE! THEY'RE DOING THEIR OWN THING ANYWAY.

The cover of this Volume 4 is Serizawa and Leleus

It was the two-shot I've been wanting to try, so I had fun drawing it

Next up is--these people There are characters I haven't yet drawn in color, so I want to draw everyone properly someday



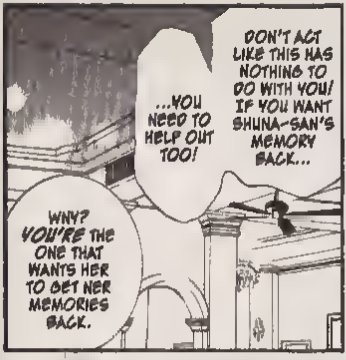

...SO.
.....
WHAT DO WE DO?
HUH?
THE METHOD BEHIND OUR GRAND PLAN TO GET SHUNA-SAN'S MEMORIES BACK.
HMM, YEAH. I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD PINPOINT WHAT WAS GOING ON AROUND HER WHEN SHE LOST HER MEMORIES, RIGHT?
BY RECREATING THE SCENE, WE COULD MAKE HER REMEMBER...
...WHAT?
YOU WERE WITH SHUNA-SAN WHEN HER MEMORIES VANISHED, WEREN'T YOU?
THERE WASN'T ANYTHING SHOCKING OR STRANGE THAT HAPPENED?
.....
...NOT REALLY.. WE WERE JUST TALKING NORMALLY.

FRIENDS OF MY DAUGHTERS, I PRESUME?
OHH? SOME UNFAMILIAR FACES.
I forget
WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?
WHAT WAS THAT PAUSE FOR?!
YO, CHIEF.
I'm an Anglophile punk lately
HOW ARE YOU, MIKAGE-KUN?
THE HEAD OF THE SAKAKIBARA FAMILY? This guy?!
HE'S JAPANESE, RIGHT?!
I AM KOUMEI SAKAKI-BARA
NICE TO MEET YOU!
DADDY!
REIHA, SHUHA, LONG TIME NO SEE!
LONG TIME NO SEE?
DADDY DOES BUSINESS ABROAD
THIS GUN-SCREEN HE PERSONALLY DEVELOPED WAS A HUGE HIT ABROAD, SO THINGS ARE LIKE THIS NOW.

THERE'S A PARTY TONIGHT WITH MANY OF OUR FRIENDS.
YOU ALL MAY PARTICIPATE IF YOU'D LIKE.
THIS IS A HOUSE BUILT ON SUNSCREEN?!
NO, NO. A FRIEND OF MINE WHO'S A HOTEL MAGNATE IN AMERICA PASSED IT ALONG TO US.
THA... THANK YOU SO MUCH.
I'D LIKE TO, BUT FOR A PARTY WITH CELEBRITIES, AN OUTFIT LIKE THIS ISN'T EXACTLY...
OH, I'VE GOT AN IDEA! FOR YOU KEI-CHAN, I'VE GOT SOMETHING PERFECT!
WH?
OH, I CAN LEND YUUMA SOME OF MY CLOTHES.
They'll definitely suit you!
NO WAY!
QUITE ALL RIGHT. WE'LL PREPARE ATTIRE FOR YOU HERE.

BUT AT ANY RATE, THIS IS AMAZING!
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME
JUST HERE TO RELAX
WHO WOULD WEAR THOSE FRILLY DRESSES?!
AND I HAD SOOO MANY OUTFITS YOU'D LOOK GOOD IN, TOO
UGH, HOW BORING.

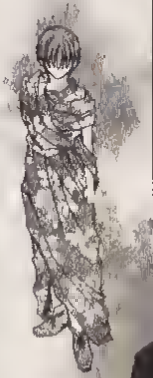
WHERE ARE KEIDAI AND MII?
I HAVEN'T SPOTTED THEM YET.
LOOKING FOR ME?
PFFI
ANCIENT ROMAN NOBLE DRESS.
SERIZAWAAA! THIS IS TOTALLY HUMILIATING!
SIRIX! THIS COULD BE THE TRIGGER SHE NEEDS TO REMEMBER POMPEII!
BR... THAT'S QUITE A FASHION STATEMENT
I ASKED THE MAIDS IF I COULD BORROW SOME FABRIC.
IT'S AN ORIGINAL STYLE, NO?


DON'T ACT LIKE THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU! IF YOU WANT SHUNA-SAN'S MEMORY BACK...
...YOU NEED TO HELP OUT TOO!
WHY? YOU'RE THE ONE THAT WANTS HER TO GET HER MEMORIES BACK.

SIRIX, YOU'RE HILARIOUS!! WHAT A DILIGENT LITTLE DUDE! YOUR LIKABILITY JUST WENT WAY UP FOR ME!!
GUAAA HA HA HA!
DAMMIT, DELOS!

...DO YOU STILL HATE LADY AGLAIA THAT MUCH...?

SHE WENT AND FORGOT.
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SHE WOULDN'T HAVE WANTED TO FORGET IT.
SHUNA-SAN!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE I'M ONLY DOING THIS FOR MYSELF...!
BUT LADY AGLAIA REALLY DID TREASURE POMPEII.
IF LADY AGLAIA'S MEMORIES COME BACK...
...MAYBE MY WORRY OVER MY OWN MEMORIES VANISHING WILL SUDDENLY GO AWAY TOO.
IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO BUY CLOTHES!!
Nooo!
Charity
HAIL, NUMENIUS. PRAY TELL HOW GOES YOUR COURTSHIP WITH VALERIA.☆
Serenaded
FOR EXAMPLE, I'LL POSE LIKE THIS ON A SEAT AT A BANQUET!
AND GOSSIP ABOUT TRIFLING MATTERS FROM THERE
DOESN'T ANYTHING COME TO MIND WHEN YOU SEE MY GETUP?!
THAT YOU'RE A PERVERT...?
WHAT COMES TO MIND FOR THE DOUBLE SERENAS

THEN...!
バサッ
とよっ
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! YOU NEVER DID ENJOY BANQUETS HELD BY NOBLES, DID YOU?
KEIDAI... YOUR MANNERS ARE QUITE BAD
RIGHT ON!
WHAT?!
BRAVO!
HE STRIPPED?!
A PERVERT?
DOES THIS OUTFIT JOG YOUR MEMORY?!
NOW. NOW WHAT?
POMPEII... WHEN I THINK OF POMPEII...
KEIDAI... I THOUGHT YOU WERE A LITTLE OFF, BUT...
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TWO DOING?!
...but he still had it all planned out
He might have claimed to be embarrassed ...
TO HAVE A SLAVE'S CLOTHING UNDERNEATH HIS NOBLE DRESS... THAT'S JUST LIKE KEI-CHAN!

TAKE HIM AWAY.
LOOK HERE! I'M A GLADIATOR...!!
But it's made in France.
Haa hee!! Whaaaa
SOME SORT OF JESTER?
WHAT... IS HE?
I'm not a weirdo I swearrrr!! Huuhh whaaat?!
HE SAID THAT NOW HE'S REALLY EMBARRASSED ABOUT WHAT HE DID.
WHAT IS HE DOING?
SO HE DOES KNOW THE FEELING OF SHAME... FOR NOW

KEI-CHAN, DON'T GET DISCOURAGED! LET'S THINK UP ANOTHER PLAN!
SERI-ZAWA
THAT WAS NOTHING JUST NOW! THE USUAL KEI-CHAN IS MUCH WEIRDER.
.....
I WANT TO TALK TO SHUNA-CHAN ABOUT PAST LIVES TOO.
DO TRY YOUR BEST.
OKAY...
SINCE I'M HAPPY THAT THE PERSON LOLEUS SERVED WAS SHUNA-CHAN.
..NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT
...LOOKING AT SERIZAWA AND HAVING AN IMAGE OF LOLEUS OVERLAP IN THE HAPPENING AS MUCH...

IF IT'S BOTHERING YOU, WHY DON'T YOU GO TALK TO THEM? AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO CONFESS YOUR FEELINGS, I'LL SHOW YOU A PLACE WITH GREAT AMBIENCE.
NO NEED
I DON'T REALLY WANT TO CONFESS.
BESIDES, EVEN IF I GO OVER NOW, I COULDN'T GET BETWEEN THEM.
FEELS LIKE THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING THEY DON'T WANT ME TO HEAR.

You don't have to look out for me
HUH?
OKAY, LET'S EAT!
TONIGHT IS FREE AND EASY! THE KITCHEN WILL MAKE WHATEVER YOU WANT.
WE'LL GO UP ON THE ROOF AND PICNIC WHILE LOOKING AT THE STARS!
IT'S MY VERY SPECIAL PLACE
I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU ESPECIALLY.

HEY THERE, PRINCESS.
HE ASKED ME IF I REMEMBERED SOMETHING.
DID YOU... SAY SOMETHING TO KEIDAI?
DON'T GLARE AT ME LIKE THAT.
...SO DID YOU?
NO. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT
NOT REALLY
IT'S NOT CUTE.

I AM NOT WITHOUT MY MEMORIES.
...THEY SAY THAT IF A PERSON RECEIVES THE SAME SHOCK AS WHEN THEY LOST THEIR MEMORIES, THEY'LL COME BACK...
ハア
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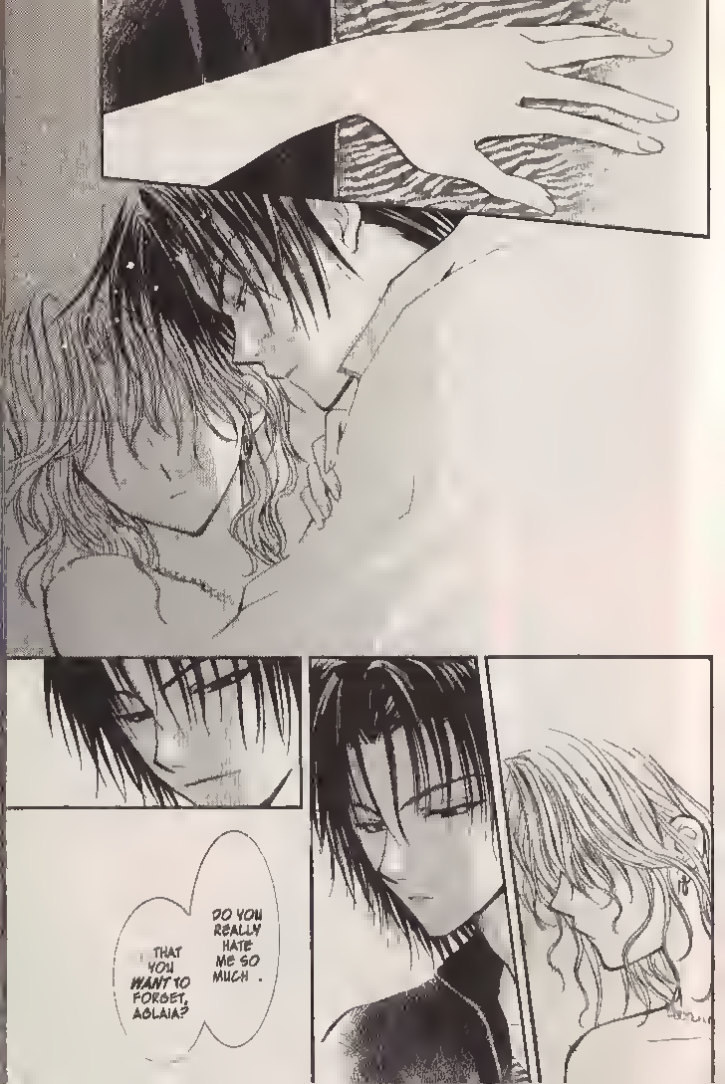
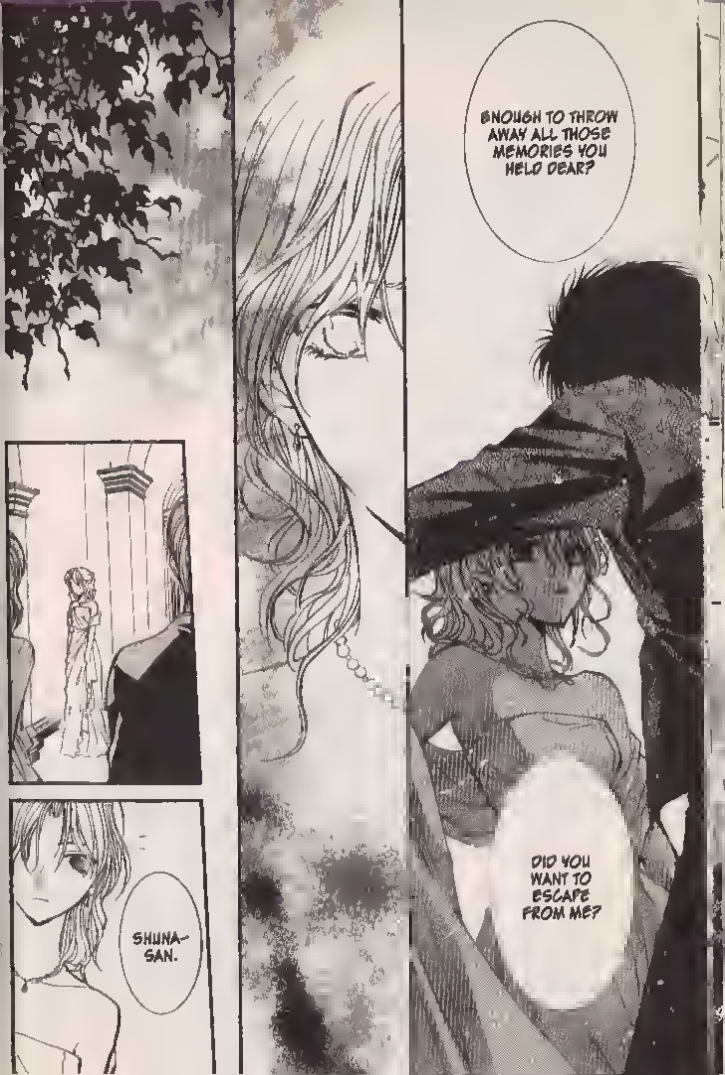

DO YOU REALLY HATE ME SO MUCH.
THAT YOU WANT TO FORGET, AGLAIA?


ENOUGH TO THROW AWAY ALL THOSE MEMORIES YOU HELD DEAR?
DID YOU WANT TO ESCAPE FROM ME?
SHUNA-SAN.

Hana to Yume comes out twice every month, so I have about two weeks to take one chapter from story to art, but in the same two weeks, I also have other work such as doing color illustrations or comics production, so I never have enough time. When I first started, it did take me the full two weeks to get to drawing, but at the quickest now, it's just five days. But! The less time I take, the more my drawings seem to be a bit rough around the edges, so it's not that great either. And if my assistants don't help me I wouldn't be able to finish up in a week even ㅠㅠ But when it comes down to it, my favorite kind of drawing is the rough type that doesn't seem like it would take more than an hour to draw. I really dig those rough, broad strokes over an orderly line ♡ I try my best to do more work like the latter but it just ends up looking like a busy mess. One day- one day!

UM, I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLIER...
...FOR GETTING OUT OF CONTROL.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
Phew.
ALL RIGHT, THIS TIME FOR SURE!
Time for plan B.
ㅠㅠ I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP LADY-AGLAIA WITH HER MEMORIES!
NOW, AS FOR YOUR AURA...
DO YOU...
...KNOW SOMETHING?

COULD THIS BE..
...THE START OF HER REMEMBERING ..?
ALTHOUGH I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT ON EARTH IT COULD BE...
EVIDENTLY I HAVE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING.
WHA...
...PLEASE REMEMBER...!!
LADY AGLAIA
THAT'S RIGHT
...TRIED TO GET ME TO REMEMBER SOMETHING, YES...?
EARLIER, YOU...
THERE IS NO NEED.
AG...

IF I'M MISTAKEN, DO FORGIVE ME
FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE, LET'S SAY I HAD FORGOTTEN SOMETHING.
I HAVE MY FAMILY. I HAVE MY FRIENDS.
WHAT HURTS ME MOST OF ALL....
I HAVE NO DISCOMFORT, NO WORRIES
...FROM YOU... AND SOUICHI!
WHAT EXACTLY IS IT I NEED TO REMEMBER?
...ARE THE CRITICAL LOOKS...

KEI-CHAN
I FINALLY FOUND YOU.

ぐぅぐぅ
WANT A COCKTAIL?
A VIRGIN ONE, OF COURSE
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU. YOU JUST UP AND DISAPPEARED FROM THE BANQUET HALL.
And Yuuma-kun went off somewhere with Raina-chan
.....
I'LL LISTEN TO ANYTHING...
...BEST FRIEND O' MINE.

I MUST HAVE PANICKED, HEARING ABOUT SHUNA-GAN SUDDENLY LOSING HER MEMORIES...
I.
I THOUGHT, "SURELY SHE DIDN'T WANT TO FORGET POMPEII?"
I DIDN'T WANT TO BLAME HER...
...BUT...
I KEPT ASKING, "WH- WHY WOULD HER MEMORIES RESET? WHAT DID SHE DO?"
...DEEP DOWN INSIDE...
...IT'S NOT LIKE SHE NEEDS THOSE MEMORIES OF POMPEII.
"I WANT TO MAKE YOU REMEMBER"... THAT WAS ONLY MY EGO.
BECAUSE WHETHER SHE WANTED TO FORGET OR NOT...
BUT THAT WAS ME, MAKING MY OWN ASSUMPTION.
YEAH...

I WONDER ...
SHUNA-SAN SAID HER LIFE NOW MADE HER HAPPY.
I'M THE WORST.
...SOME DAY TOO?
...IF I'LL FORGET...
IS THAT WHY SHE LET GO OF HER PAST?
SERENA ...
...AND LOLEUS.
...MY LIFE AT PRESENT BECOMES DEARER TO ME THAN ANYTHING ELSE...
WHEN...
...WITHOUT LEAVING EVEN A FRAGMENT OF MEMORY...
ALL OF IT...
...SO EASILY...

YOU WON'T FORGET.
YOU WOULDN'T FORGET SERENA, KEI-CHAN.
BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING HER FOREVER.
YOU'VE CARED FOR HER SO MUCH, KEI-CHAN.
...BEST FRIEND.
LEAVE IT TO ME...
SERIZAWA ...
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
IF YOU'RE EVER ABOUT TO FORGET, KEI-CHAN...
...THEN I'LL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE TO TELL YOU THE STORIES YOU'VE TOLD ME ABOUT POMPEII.

WHAT...
NO, I'M NOT...
...WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

KEI-
CHA ..

IN FRONT OF ME IS A "GIRL" NAMED "SERIZAWA."

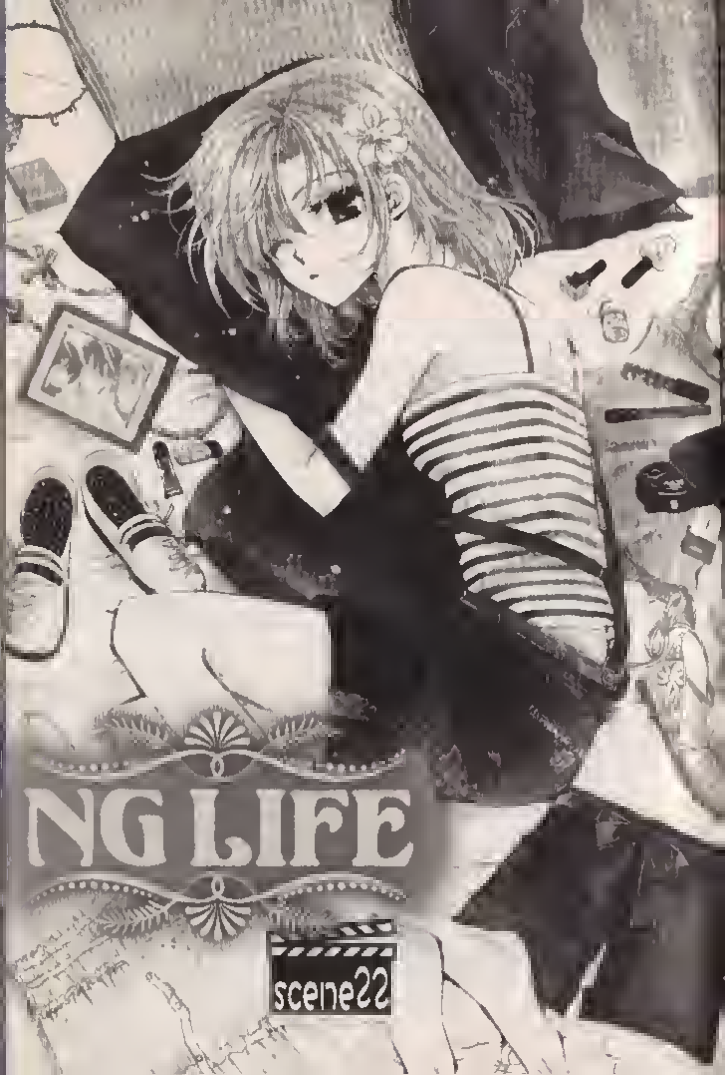
A GIRL WHO'S DEAR TO ME.

QUICKLY PUSHING THOSE THOUGHTS AWAY...

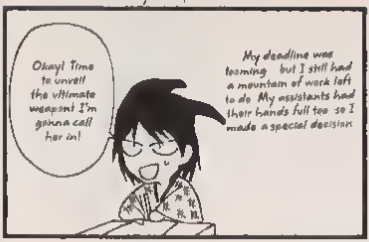
...I CALLED HER BY THE NAME OF MY BEST FRIEND, LOLEUS...

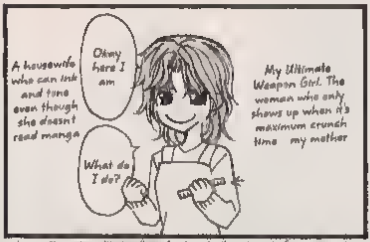
...SO THAT MY MEMORIES WOULD NEVER FADE AWAY.

SCENE21 End.


NG LIFE
scene22

My Trump Card


Okay! Time to unveil the ultimate weapon! I'm gonna call her in!
My deadline was looming but I still had a mountain of work left to do. My assistants had their hands full too so I made a special decision.


A housewife who can ink and tone even though she doesn't read manga
Okay, here I am
What do I do?
My Ultimate Weapon Girl. The woman who only shows up when it's maximum crunch time my mother

Substitute Manga Cast: Kado's Mom ← Armed with a ruler and, of course, nemy to go

So strange!
It just won't!
Well I've been scraping and scraping for a while now but it just won't scrape off!
Hmmm
If it's too much of a bother to cut that tone up you can just scrape it off!

SAEKI-KUUUN!
WHA?
UGH, FINE. WE'LL GET SAKAKIBARA TO SHOW US HERS.
We haven't finished ours yet
LET US SEE IT!
NO WAY. YOU GUYS ALWAYS TRY TO TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT.
I HAVE, BUT ..
DID YOU DO YOUR MATH HOMEWORK YET?

My Room♪

Has sunlight constantly streaming into it so I get lots of UV rays It's a really great room A few days ago I bought a type of curtain called the "Serena." It is a very pretty pastel green color And because the curtains were so pretty, I wanted to keep the room just as pretty. Of course it's always cluttered with reference materials and Hana to Yume copies but it sure is easy to get work done in it

SAKAKI-BARA!
DID YOU FIGURE OUT NUMBER 2 ON PAGE 54 FOR MATH?
JUST HOLD ON A SECOND!
YES...
DON'T CAUSE SHUNA-SAN ANY TROUBLE, YOU GUYS!
Especially you Dono you move fast ;)
I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING! WHAT'S YOUR DEAL WITH HER?
IT'S NO TROUBLE AT ALL.
SHUNSUKE
B-BUT...
AH...
WHAT HURTS ME MOST OF ALL...

Before I started drawing NG Life, I was brainstorming with my editor about my next project, during which we discussed how "You really shouldn't do a romance with a guy as the lead." The reason for that—among others—was because the readers could relate more to a female main character, and yet despite our discussion, somehow we ended up with a romantic comedy with Kaidai in the lead role. Personally though, I rather enjoy manga where the male main character gets butterflies over the heroine. And in the fan letters I receive, quite a few people write to me about how much they like Kaidai. What a lucky guy to be so popular, Kaidai. The main themes of these letters are like, "When I see Kaidai's No-Good style, I don't feel as awkward. It makes me feel a lot better about myself." By the way, I wonder if there are any male readers out there. If so, please raise your hands!

A FEW DAYS AGO, SHUNA-SAN TRANSFERRED TO OUR SCHOOL.
THE BOYS IN OUR CLASS TOOK A KEEN INTEREST IN HER, WITH HER MATURE BEAUTY
Yes, check that!
Woo hoo!
SINCE SHUNA-CHAN IS SO KIND AND ALL,
KIND?
HER KINDNESS IS MORE THAN JUST FOR SHOW.
DON'T WIMP OUT! YOU'LL STICK WITH THIS PROBLEM UNTIL YOU FULLY UNDERSTAND IT.
SAKAKIBARA-SAN, I DON'T GET IT!
IN OUR PAST LIVES, SHE SCHOOLED ME TOO ON QUITE A FEW THINGS.
YOUR BACK'S WIDE OPEN, SIRIX
Retrain! Now
NO, I JUST NEVER IMAGINED YOU'D PULL A KNIFE ON ME.
THAT'S SOOOO COOL! ♡
In the middle of a lesson
... EVER SINCE THE NIGHT OF THAT BANQUET, I'VE BEEN AVOIDING SHUNA-SAN'S GAZE
AS FOR ME...

IT SEEMS LIKE I MIGHT HURT HER AGAIN...
...BY SAYING SOMETHING UNNECESSARY.
HEY, KEI-CHAN.
UH...

JUST BECAUSE SERIZAWA GOT CLOSE TO ME, RIGHT?
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
A HA HA! THAT'S ALL RIGHT, IT'S NOTHING NEW! ♡
SORRY, SORRY! I SUDDENLY WENT ALL SPACEY ON YOU! ☆
I SHOULD JUST THINK OF HER AS LOLEUS AND ACT NORMAL
Loleus Loleus
YES?
OKAY! LOLEUS-KUN IS PRESENT!
What an energetic response!
Face only Loleus
Attendance Chart
UNWILLING KEIDAI VISION.
NO!
IT'S OKAY.
IF I JUST KEEP MY HEART STEADFAST...
LOLEUS! LOLEUS, WHERE ARE YOU?

SHUNA-CHAN, HAVE YOU GOTTEN ADJUSTED TO OUR SCHOOL?
YES
AFTER SCHOOL, THE THREE OF THEM ARE GOING TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL TO PICK UP YUUMA AND REINA.
I'M GLAD.
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HAVING FUN, SHUNA-SAN.
...I WON'T FORGET MY PAST LIFE.
ARE YOU...
WHAT'S WRONG?
...NOT HAVING FUN, KEIDAI?
YOU SEEM LISTLESS LATELY.

ガラッ
LET'S GO HOME!
YUUMA-KUN!
I SEE.
むん
I'M TOTALLY FINE!!
I...
すうん
YOUR PLACE IS SO HUGE IT'S HARD TO TELL WHERE THE NEIGH-BORHOOD EVEN STARTS!
SERIOUSLY! ESPECIALLY NOWADAYS WHEN YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THE NAMES OF THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGH-BORHOOD!
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO REMEMBER THE NAMES OF HISTORICAL FIGURES FROM HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO?
They're like twins!
AND WITH HER OF ALL PEOPLE!
THAT'S MY LINE!
WHA--WHAT'S THE MAT-TER?
WE FAILED OUR HISTORY TEST...
...AND HAVE TO RE-TAKE IT.

WELL, DO YOU WANT TO COME STUDY AT MY HOUSE, YUUMA?
I'LL TEACH YOU AN AWESOME STUDY TACTIC THAT'LL GUARANTEE YOU A PASSING GRADE.
REALLY?!
GAH!!
I STILL SEE YUUMA AS SERENA, SO THERE'S NO PROBLEM! SUPPOSEDLY.
IT'S A BIG PROBLEM, KEIDAI-SAN.
I KINDA FEEL LIKE I'VE FINALLY REGAINED MY FOOTING WITH THAT JUST NOW...!
SERENA'S ANGELIC SMILE!! IT'S BEEN SOOO LONG...
BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR YOU, KEIDAI-SAN?

YOU SEE, THE ISN'T-IT-JUST-FINE MOVE-MENT WAS...
YOU LEAVE ME WITH NO CHOICE, SERENA!
SIRIX, TEACH ME ABOUT THIS. ♡
IT FEELS WEIRD TO TUTOR SERENA...
HA HA HA! MY SMARTS PALE IN COMPARISON TO HOW CUTE YOU ARE.
SIRIX, YOU'RE SO SMART... ♡
Going along swimmingly
OHH-KAY, LET'S DO THIS!
YUUMA, ARE YOU READY?
KICK!!
GEH.

YOU'RE HERE TOO?
HEY, KNOCK THAT OFF ALREADY. THE ROOM'S GETTING ALL FUNKY.
Training so he can get all buff
SORRY, DID I GET YOU? THIS IS THAT BARRY'S BOOTCAMP THAT'S POPULAR RIGHT NOW
YU... YUUMA
Did my...? delusion freak you out?
I get tense if I don't do it
How dare you disregard me, a history major, to teach Yuuma yourself
Are you challenging me?
SHINOBU-SAN... IF YOU CAN'T HANDLE THE HEAT, GET OUT OF THE KITCHEN.
Urrgghhh so macho
GAH! SOMEONE'S ALL DRIED UP IN A CORNER OF THE ROOM!
*Celsius 86° Fahrenheit
To turn it on just for that would be bad for the environment
HOLD UP.
THE TEMPER-ATURE TODAY IS 31°.*
A FAN'S MORE THAN ENOUGH.
...I GUESS ...
DID YOU COME OVER TO STUDY TOO?
MORE IMPORTANTLY, TURN THE A/C ON IN HERE! IT'S SO HOT I COULD DIE.

OKAY, OKAY. WE'RE STARTING SOON!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT? BARRY'S AWE-SOME!
YOU'RE GOING TOO MUCH OF THAT BARRY'S CRAP!
TWINS OF CUTE!!
どきゅん
YES, TEACHER!
*Celsius 82° and 104° F respectively
THERE ARE COUNTRIES IN EUROPE WHERE IT'S OVER 40°! * YOU NEED TO WORK ON GETTING A BODY THAT DOESN'T JUST GIVE UP WHEN JAPAN GETS LIKE THAT TOO!!
IT'S NOT ENOUGH! I CAN'T SURVIVE ANYWHERE HOTTER THAN 28°!
ギャあああ
THEN HOW ABOUT I PUT ON THE DEHUMI-DIFIER?
Japan's gone over 40° in recently
JEEZ, WHAT AN IDIOT.
IT WAS A NECES-SARY EVIL. TO KEEP ME AWAKE DURING CLASS.
YUUMA-KUN! WHY IS RYOMA SAKAMOTO ALL PUNKED OUT?!
Proud
WHAT PERIOD IN HISTORY ARE YOU GUYS DOING RIGHT NOW?
RYOMA SAKAMOTO.

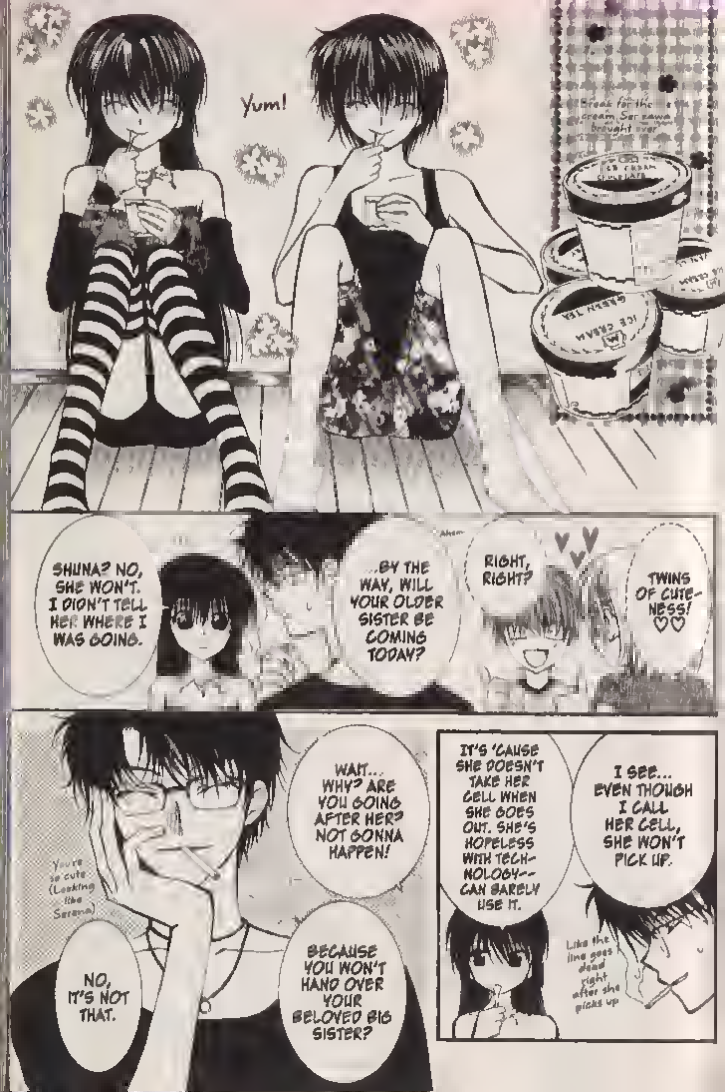
THEIR TWIN SYNCHRONIZATION RATE IS 120%!!
YOU'RE DOING THE EXACT SAME THING.
BUT MINE'S MUCH MORE ELEGANT.
PERRY.
REINA'S TEXTBOOK.
YOU TWO... HOW DARE YOU...
...MOCK HISTORY?!
AND KEIGAI, YOU SAID YOU'D TEACH ME, BUT...
...WHAT ARE YOUR GRADES LIKE?
YEAH!
BESIDES, HOW THE HELL DID YOU MANAGE TO FAIL HISTORY WITH ME AROUND?
BECAUSE BETWEEN COLLEGE AND YOUR PART-TIME JOB, YOU'RE NOT HOME THAT MUCH, SHINOGU!
WELL, ACTUALLY...
...I'M TOP OF OUR CLASS.
Some times second

THOSE TWO HAVE TO BE TWINS SEPARATED AT BIRTH OR SOMETHING.
WAAHHH! WHYYY?!
BULLY HIM, BULLY HIM!
ELITIST JERK!!
OR COULD IT BE THAT SERENA'S SOUL SPLIT AND HALF WENT INTO EACH OF THEM...?
SERI-OUSLY!!
LET'S DO THIS, REINA!
HELL IF I'M GONNA LOSE TO KEIOAI OF ALL PEOPLE.
A THE SAKURADA GATE INCIDENT.
Well...yes but
A HOMICIDE.
WHAT DO YOU CALL THE INCIDENT WHERE LOYALISTS REVOLTING AGAINST THE ANSEI PURGE ASSASSINATED THE CHIEF MINISTER OF THE SHOGUNATE NAOSUKE II AS HE WAS ENTERING THE CASTLE ON BUSINESS?
IT'S NOT A PERSON'S NAME.
JIKI-SAN? WHO'S THAT?
JIKI-SAN.**
SUKE-SAN AND KAKU-SAN!!*
Speaking of shogun subordinates
WHAT DO YOU CALL THE RETAINERS UNDER DIRECT CONTROL OF THE SHOGUN WITH A MINIMUM OF 10,000 ALLOTMENTS OF RICE?
That means no hair!
Skin head?
Okay then what's the name of the hairstyle that became Japan's symbol from the Bakumatsu to the Meiji eras?

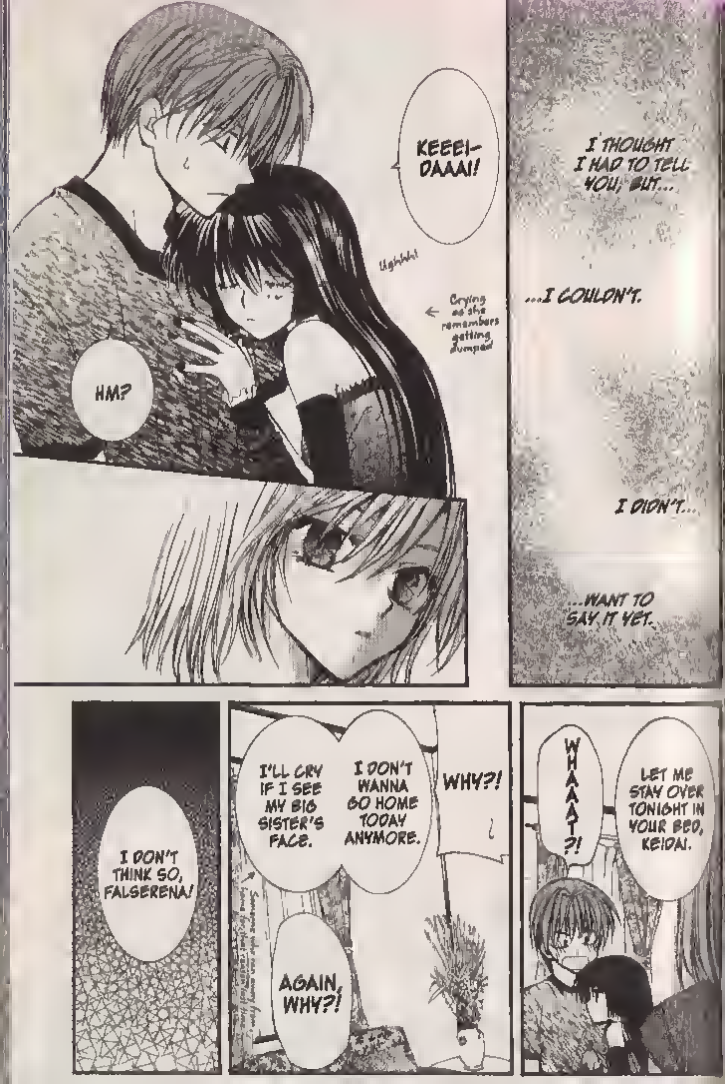
* Names of the two samurai retainers in the M to Keumen TV show ** A term meaning "immediate followers of the shogun

*One of the two phonetic based writing systems in Japanese. Kanji is the third system based on Chinese pictograph characters.
Whats wrong with hiragana as long as its correct?
WHAAAAT?
...HERE, WRITE THEM OUT OVER AND OVER!
BECAUSE YOU'LL HAVE TO WRITE PEOPLE'S NAMES AND THE TITLES OF EVENTS IN KANJI*...
...I KINDA...
...FEEL LIKE THE WORRY IN MY HEART IS MELTING AWAY...
HEH...
WHAT?
OH, NOTHING. I WAS JUST KINDA LIKE...
..."AHH, YOU'RE SO CUTE!"

I'M SORRY I'M LAME!!
I'LL TIE HIM UP SINCE HE'S DANGER-OUS.
ME TOO.
THAT WAS SO LAME IT'S BOOTCAMP FOR ME!
WHOA, LAME!
GAAAHHH!! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS DUDE SAYING?! SCARY!!
Shoo shoo!
WARN-ING!! STAY AWAY!
AWW...
HELLO!
Battlefield.
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK, SERIZAWA!
In the middle of tying up.
In the middle of Bootcamp.
WORKING HARD...? ...UH...
WHAT ISN'T?


Yum!
Break for the ice cream. Saeki-sawa brought over
ICE CREAM
ICE CREAM
ICE CREAM
SHUNA? NO, SHE WON'T. I DIDN'T TELL HER WHERE I WAS GOING.
..BY THE WAY, WILL YOUR OLDER SISTER BE COMING TODAY?
Ahem
RIGHT, RIGHT?
TWINS OF CUTE-NESS! ♡♡
You're so cute (Looking like Serena)
NO, IT'S NOT THAT.
WAIT... WHY? ARE YOU GOING AFTER HER? NOT GONNA HAPPEN!
BECAUSE YOU WON'T HAND OVER YOUR BELOVED BIG SISTER?
IT'S 'CAUSE SHE DOESN'T TAKE HER CELL WHEN SHE GOES OUT. SHE'S HOPELESS WITH TECH-NOLOGY--CAN BARELY USE IT.
I SEE... EVEN THOUGH I CALL HER CELL, SHE WON'T PICK UP.
Like the line goes dead right after she picks up

Hm
MY BIG SISTER, WELL, SHE AND ..
SOU... ICHI...
.....
OH YEAH, SHINOGU-SAN DOESN'T KNOW THAT DELOS IS HERE IN MODERN TIMES
??? WHAT THE?
GRRRR!! THAT JERK!!
AH..
UM...
ALTHOUGH WE FINALLY GOT TO MEET
...SINCE SHE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO, BUT...
SHINOGU-SAN...
...WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF I SAID THAT UNTIL A MERE TWO WEEKS AGO LADY AGLAIA DID REMEMBER YOU?
IF YOU KNEW THAT UNTIL JUST RECENTLY SHE HAD HER MEMORIES...
...AND THEN THEY SUDDENLY RESET...
...YOU'D...


KEEEI-
OAAA!
Ughhh!
Crying as she remembers getting dumped
HM?
I THOUGHT I HAD TO TELL YOU, BUT...
...I COULDN'T.
I DIDN'T...
...WANT TO SAY IT YET.
LET ME STAY OVER TONIGHT IN YOUR BED, KEIDAI.
WHAAAT?!
WHY?!
I DON'T WANNA GO HOME TODAY ANYMORE.
I'LL CRY IF I SEE MY BIG SISTER'S FACE.
AGAIN, WHY?!
I DON'T THINK SO, FALSERENA!

YOU JUST WANT TO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR KEIOAI BY DOING THAT AGAIN, DON'T YOU!
IF YOU DO THAT...
...THEN I'LL GET THERE FIRST AND STAKE OUT KEIOAI'S BED!!
Ngh five more minutes.
SERENA WILL STAKE OUT MY BED?!
I'LL ACT AS A DETER-RENT!
YUUMA-KUN, THAT'D BE A KEIOAI MAGNET!
YEAH. THIS DUDE IS DANGEROUS. HE'LL TURN INTO A WOLF ON YOU.
WILL NOT!

KEIDAI, PLEAASE?
NOPE. YOU'LL GO HOME ONCE WE'RE DONE STUDYING.
Kei
FAIRENUA
Yuu
WELL, I SHOULD BE GETTING HOME SOON.
WHA?
SHE'S GOING HOME ALREADY?
SERI-ZAWA!
GOOD LUCK STUDY-ING!
.....
...OH, JUST OUT WITH IT ALREADY...

カレシ

きゅっ

ぺち

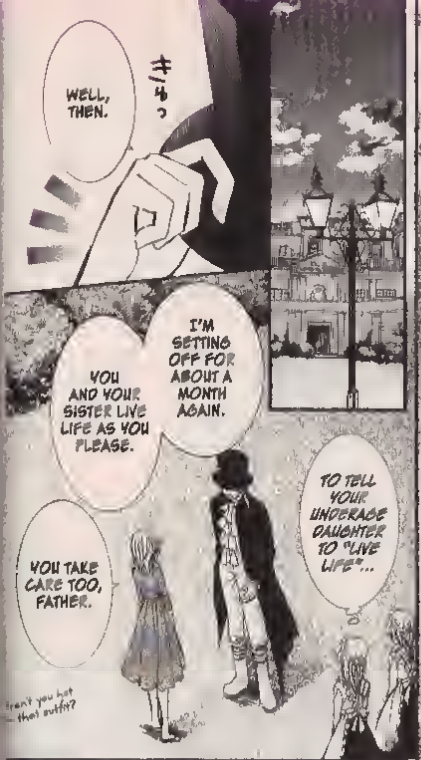
HM?
HUH?
NO...
DO YOU NEED SOME-THING?
THAT'S NOT IT.
...WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING? SERIZAWA SAID SHE WAS GOING HOME AND ALL.
I KINDA... FEEL LIKE I WANT TO TALK TO HER HERE FOR JUST A BIT LONGER...
JUST DON'T GO HOME YET.
WHAT...? I'M GOING HOME, YOU KNOW.
OH... SO YOU ARE...
L— L...

I GUESS... I'M BEING WEIRD.
THEN
AH...
WA!...
NO, WE ARE FRIENDS AND ALL...
...SO THERE'S NOTHING REALLY WEIRD, RIGHT?
...FOR FRIENDS... TO DO THIS...?
HM..? IS IT WEIRD..
DOES SHE THINK IT'S WEIRD...?!
AAH!
OH NO.
UH...
UMM...

I'M SO SORRY.
OH MY.
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
IT'S NOT.
I INTERRUPTED YOU.
...COME PLAY WITH US.
YEAH, SERIZAWA-SAN...
OH, I...
MII-CHAN, WHY DON'T YOU STAY AND PLAY TOO?
SINCE EVERYONE WAS WORKING HARD. I WENT AND GOT SOME FIREWORKS. LOOK!

HECK, WHY DON'T YOU JUST STAY OVER IN KEIGAI'S BED?
ARE WE STILL ON THAT?!
GO ON...
STAY A WHILE.
WOULD YOU MAKE HER STAY ALREADY!
YUUMA
AH...

"ARE YOU NOT HAVING FUN, KEIDAI?"
EVERYONE'S HERE, REACHING OUT TO ME.
THERE'S NO REASON WHY I SHOULDN'T BE.
...I WANT THEM TO STAY IN MY HEART.
IT'S JUST...
I MUST NEVER FORGET...
THAT FEELING— THAT TRAGEDY.
THAT'S THE REASON I WAS REBORN IN POSSESSION OF MY MEMORIES.
BUT...
IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY...

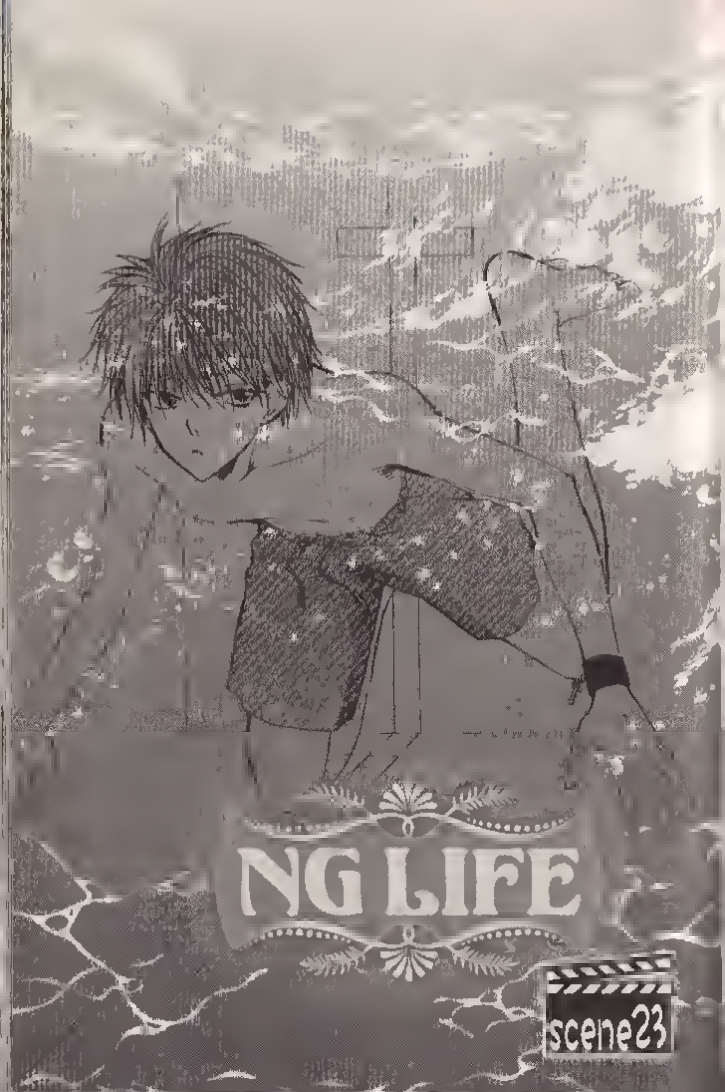

WELL, THEN.
I'M SETTING OFF FOR ABOUT A MONTH AGAIN.
YOU AND YOUR SISTER LIVE LIFE AS YOU PLEASE.
YOU TAKE CARE TOO, FATHER.
TO TELL YOUR UNDERAGE DAUGHTER TO "LIVE LIFE"...
Aren't you not that outfit?
WHERE'S REINA?
Indeed I am!
SHE WENT TO GO HANG OUT SOMEWHERE.
PROBABLY AT A FRIEND'S PLACE.
HMMM... OH WELL.
"OH WELL"?! THIS LATE AT NIGHT?!

...IS IT LIKE THIS...

ANSWER IT FOR ME
IT'S RINGING.
COME NOW!
VRRR
VRRR
SO-- SOME-ONE!
WHAT'S WRONG?
OH!
...FROM A "KEIDAI SAEKI"-SAN.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S A TEXT, NOT A PHONE CALL...
HUN...
I DON'T LIKE TECH-NOLOGY.
COME ON!
LEARN HOW TO USE IT ALREADY!
YOU ALWAYS DO THIS, DON'T YOU? WHENEVER IT GOES OFF, YOU JUST TURN IT OFF!
LOOK.
WHAT IS?
HOW CUTE.
OH MY.

YOU'RE SMILING, AREN'T YOU?

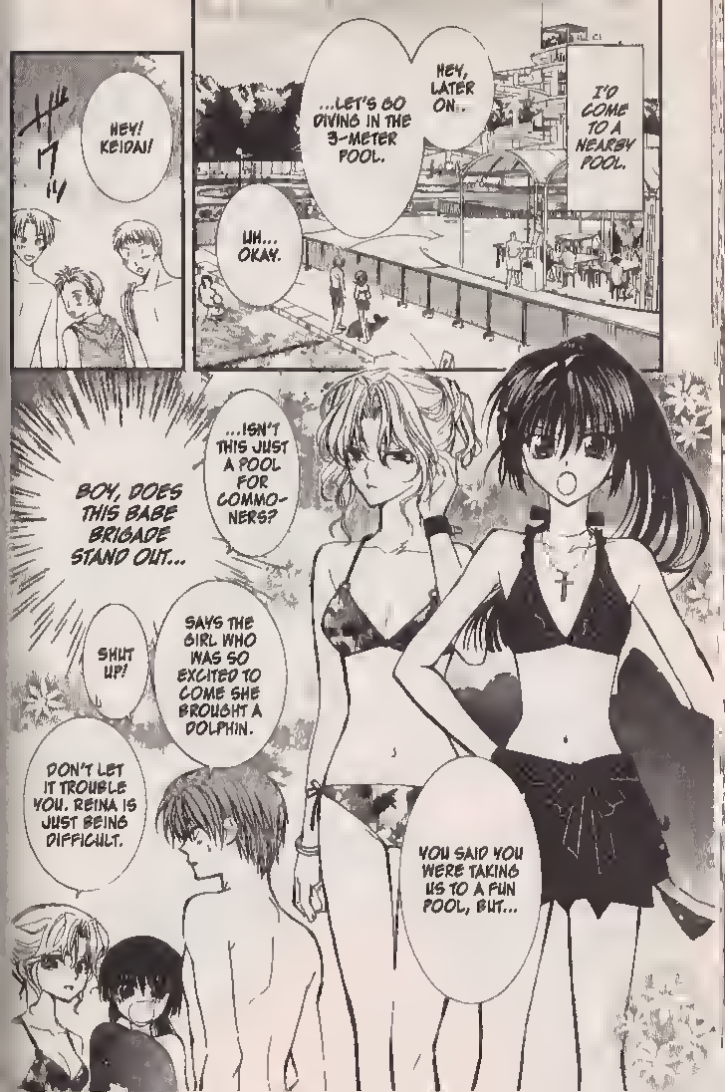
LOOK AT THAT!


NG LIFE
scene23

Thank you so much, everyone for the letters and illustrations you're always sending me. I want to reply right away but due to time constraints... that's pretty difficult. I'm sorry. Your letters are my energy source! Please direct all your fan letters to →

Tokyopop Inc
Attn: Mizuho Kusanagi
5900 Wilshire Blvd
Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA
90036

YOU SURE ARE FAST, KEI-CHAN.
WHA.. WHAT THE...
YOU WERE ALREADY CHANGED AND IN THE WATER!
ONE SUMMER DAY WITH THE SUN BLAZING DOWN...


HEY! KEIDAI!
...LET'S GO DIVING IN THE 3-METER POOL.
HEY, LATER ON...
I'D COME TO A NEARBY POOL.
UH... OKAY.
BOY, DOES THIS BABE BRIGADE STAND OUT...
...ISN'T THIS JUST A POOL FOR COMMONERS?
SHUT UP!
SAYS THE GIRL WHO WAS SO EXCITED TO COME SHE BROUGHT A DOLPHIN.
DON'T LET IT TROUBLE YOU. REINA IS JUST BEING DIFFICULT.
YOU SAID YOU WERE TAKING US TO A FUN POOL, BUT...

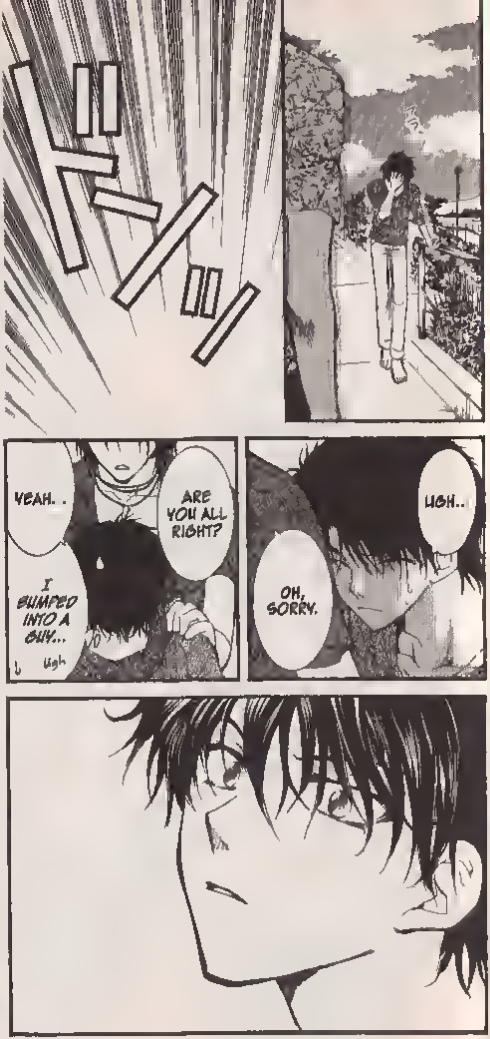
OH, SHUNA-SAN, YOU CAN'T USE THAT HERE.
I CAN'T?
Snorkeling gear and surfboard
HEY KEI-DAI...
...HOW DO YOU LIKE MY SWIM-SUIT?
キラン
THE NERVE OF HER... WHEN SHE KNOWS HOW MUCH SHE LOOKS LIKE SERENA...
That little
IT'S... CUTE?
WHY IS THAT A QUES-TION?!
KEI-DAAA!
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT SAID YOU WANTED TO RACE, BUT YOU WENT OFF AND SWAM BY YOURSELF!
I KNEW IT WOULD HAPPEN, BUT SEEING SERENA'S FACE ON THAT BODY REALLY DOES BUM ME OUT.
It really is true he's cute but he's a boy
LOOKING AT THINGS RATION-ALLY, YOU REALLY DO LIKE GIRLS, DON'T YOU?

YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN RESTING IN THE BREAK AREA...
AHHN WHY ARE YOU FORCING YOURSELF TO GO OUT IN THE SUN WHEN YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T HANDLE IT?
DON'T TALK NONSENSE!
Already exhausted
SHINOBU-SAN!
I'M RIGHT HERE...
Sweet dreams, mama!
HMM? WHERE'S SHINOBU-SAN?
WERE YOU REALLY A WOMAN IN YOUR PAST LIFE?
I'LL BE HERE FOR THAT EVEN IF I GET HEATSTROKE.
SERIZAWA, REINA WHO LOOKS LIKE SERENA, AND EVEN AOLAIA ARE ALL WEARING SWIMSUITS.
WHAT'S WRONG? IS HE NOT FEELING WELL?
DOES HE HAVE SOME REASON...?
SHUHA-SAN.
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHY DOESN'T HE JUST JUMP IN THE POOL IF HE'S THAT HOT?
He's totally covered up when in his past life he got it all hang out
YOU BEING NICE JUST PISSES ME OFF...
PLUS, SHINOBU-SAN, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING COMING HERE WITHOUT A SWIMSUIT?
FOR THE TIME BEING, THESE ARE FOR YOU, SHINOBU-SAN. SOME COOLING MEDICINE, A FROZEN WATER BOTTLE, A SUN UMBRELLA, A TOWEL...
Effi client

SHALL I ACCOMPANY YOU THERE?
YOU SHOULD REST IN THE BREAK AREA.
AGLAIA...
Smyrna version!
BIG SISTERRR!
LOOK LOOK, THIS POOL HAS A CURRENT!
OH NO, I'M ALL RIGHT.
I'M FINE, SO GO HAVE FUN.
I SEE. IF YOU NEED ME, JUST SHOUT.

YOU REALLY WANT TO TALK WITH SHUNA-SAN, DON'T YOU?
...WHAT?
!
YOU'RE SO SWEET, SHINOSU-SAN.
GET OUTTA HERE!!
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU?
SHUT THE HELL UP! I DON'T NEED TO HEAR CRAP LIKE THAT FROM YOU OF ALL PEOPLE!
...GUESS I'LL HEAD FOR SHADE AFTER ALL
UH, OI,
...

I wonder who is the most popular character from NG Life ..? The characters that get the most fan mail are Keidai, Yuuma, Serena I guess But if you ask the folks around me they'd say Serizawa, Ledeus, Shuuge Saaki (Raoul) Students lean more towards Serena And the more mature crowd say Serizawa it seems (laughs) As for my little sister, she says it's Arae kun (If you said "Who?!" then please go back and read though to find him! ☆) If you guys don't mind, please write me and tell me who you like the most The past chapter had a lot of characters in it so it was quite an effort to draw, but at the same time, it was a lot of fun too ♪ And I get to draw the girls in their swimsuits! As for the guys though, I prefer to draw them all decked out in dapper outfits!! Wait, I think I just derailed myself At any rate see you again in Volume 5! I'm so happy that Volume 5 is even coming out!



NO... NO-THING!
WHAT'S THE MAT-TER?
...THINK-ING THAT SOUICHI SURE IS LATE.
JUST, YOU KNOW ..
WE'VE ARRIVED, SIR.
Water Taxi Driver
YEAH, HE DROVE US OVER HERE TODAY.
SOUICHI MIKAGE (PAST LIFE NAME: DELOS)
"SOUICHI"? DELOS IS COMING?
IF THEY MEET WITHOUT WARNING AND I'M NOT THERE TO GET BETWEEN THEM, I'M NOT SURE WHAT'LL GO DOWN...
BUT SHINOGU-SAN DIDN'T THINK TOO HIGHLY OF DELOS
I WOULD-N'T CALL IT BAD..
IS THAT BAD?
...I HAVEN'T TOLD SHINOGU-SAN ABOUT DELOS YET. I GUESS THEY'LL MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME HERE.
KEI-CHAN?
Don't you cause Aglaia any more trouble!

.....
Already
met
without
warning.
THIS...
THIS GUY
IS...!!
ピシャーン
.....
.....
...UHHH...
WHO'S THIS
AGAIN?
DELOS
...?!

..IS IT MY IMAGI-NATION...
HMMM. WHAT WAS IT AGAIN? FEELS LIKE I'VE SEEN HIM SOMEWHERE BEFORE, BUT...
BUT UNLIKE SIRIX, HE WAS A DANGEROUS MAN WITH A LOT OF AMBITION. TO THINK, THIS GUY'S BEEN REINCARNATED IN THE PRESENT!
DELOS WAS A MERCENARY FOR ABLAIA.
HM?
もやもや
BUT I FEEL KINDA OFF...
HUUUH? BUT FOR A SECOND THERE I KINDA SAW HIM AS A WOMAN...
WHAT THE HELL COUNTRY ARE YOU FROM WHERE MEN PASSING BY GREET EACH OTHER BY ONE OF 'EM GRABBIN' THE OTHER DUDE'S CHEST?! YOU BASTAAAAAARD!!
MIKAGE'S ONLY MEMORIES OF SMYRNA (IF ANY) ARE OF HER HUGE BOOBS.

FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, LOOKS LIKE HE HAS NO MEMORIES OF HIS PAST LIFE...
...BUT IF HE SEES THE BABE BRIGADE LIKE THAT WHO KNOWS WHAT HE'LL DO!!
SHINOBU'S LITTLE KITTENS
HE'S GOING IN THEIR DIRECTION...
SORRY, LOOKS LIKE I GOT YOU MIXED UP WITH SOMEONE.
SEE YA.
I DON'T CARE IF THEY KNOW EACH OTHER FROM THEIR PAST LIVES.
...WAIT.
WORSE, IF KEIDAI SEES DELOS HE'LL BE STUPIDLY OVERJOYED AT MEETING SOMEONE FROM HIS PAST LIFE.
Shinobu has a complete idiot complex at it!
YAAYY! I'M SOOO HAPPY!
SHINOBU'S IMAGE OF HIM
SHE CANNOT MEET THIS MAN.
LOOK HERE, YOU BASTARD. ALL OF A SUDDEN I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD...
...AFTER YOU GROPED ME WITH YOUR FILTHY PAWS.

HUH?
WHERE DID SHINOSU-SAN GO?
AHHH!
THE WATER SLIDE WAS SUPER FUN!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
UH, NOTHING. SHINOSU-SAN'S GONE.
I WONDER IF HE DID END UP GOING TO THE BREAK AREA.
JEEZ, AND I BOUGHT HIM SOME SHAVED ICE TOO.
OOOH. Good boy!
KEI-CHAN, YOU GET ALONG SO WELL WITH KAGAMI-SENSEI!
GET ALONG?

I CAN'T STAND HOW RUDE AND SELFISH THAT GUY IS!
AND YET YOU'VE GOT HIS BACK A LOT, HUH?
At times like this
I GUESS.
SINCE HE'S ONE OF THOSE INVOLVED IN OUR PAST LIVES...
It's making us feel sad
PLUS ...
...THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT HIM THAT I CAN'T IGNORE...
ABOUT BOTH SISTERS
HMM. I'LL GIVE HIM A CALL AFTER ALL.
MAYBE SOMETHING HAPPENED.
Although he said he'd be here even if he got heatstroke
HEY, YOU WANT THIS?
I ate a bite through
IF YOU DON'T, GIVE IT TO YUUMA.
OF COURSE I'M GONNA EAT IT.

I'M TOTALLY NOT AT THE BREAK AREA.
THIS IS THE BREAK AREA.
UH?
ME?
NOW?
I'M IN THE BATH-ROOM. THE BATHROOM.
HEY.
I'LL BE OFF DOING WHATEVER I FEEL LIKE SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I CAN'T LET YOU GO OUT THERE RIGHT NOW, YOU BASTARD.
IN ANY CASE, AN EXCUSE TO KEEP HIM HERE...
I'M GONNA GO.
I GOT PEOPLE WAITING FOR ME.
ISN'T IT ENOUGH?
I'VE COME THIS FAR.

WAIT UP.
WHAT NOW?
WON'T YOU STAY HERE JUST A LITTLE LONGER...?
RIGHT NOW...
...I'VE GOT THIS DISEASE WHERE I'LL DIE OF LONELINESS IF I'M LEFT ALONE...!!
What are you, a rabbit?!
IF A DUDE EVER SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO ME, I'D BEAT HIM DOWN FOR SURE...
.....
...FINE.
OH
NORMALLY, I'D BEAT HIM DOWN NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT THIS GUY...

Trrrrra
HM?
I KEEP SEEING HIM AS A CHICK WITH BIG BOOBS.
AHHH.. DON'T TELL ME I'M GOING FUNNY IN THE HEAD...?
IT WOULD APPEAR THE IMPACT OF THE BIG BOOBS WAS DEFINITELY TOO STRONG
もやもや
UHH... SORRY, BUT THIS IS KEIDAI...
LIKE, JUST 'CAUSE I TOUCHED SOMEONE'S CHEST, THEY STARTED COMPLAINING ABOUT FEELING ALL SICK!
AND THEN THEY STARTED SAYING, LIKE, WELL, IF I LEAVE, THEY'LL JUST DIE OF LONELINESS OR SOMETHIN'
Everybody!
WELL, IT'S THE STRANGEST THING...
STRANGEST THING?
Since she forgot her cell in the changing room she ordered Keidai to call up Mikage on her behalf
REINA'S KINDA GETTING ALL PISSY, YOU KNOW? WHERE ARE YOU?

...I TRULY REGRET HAVING TO RELAY THIS TO YOU; HOWEVER...
...MIKAGE IS... CURRENTLY INDISPOSED, IT SEEMS...
PING!
NOT A GIRL?!
INDISPOSED?
UH... WELL, THAT'S...
MY MY...
WHAT A HIGH LIFE SOME OF US ARE LIVING...
HUH? THE ATMOSPHERE AROUND SHIINA-SAN IS ALL SCARY!
BUT, BEYOND THAT, WHAT HAPPENED TO SHINOBU-SAN?
MAYBE I'M BECAUSE HE USED TO BE A WOMAN THAT I'M NOT WORRYING TOO MUCH, BUT...
I'LL GO CHECK THE BATHROOM
HEY.

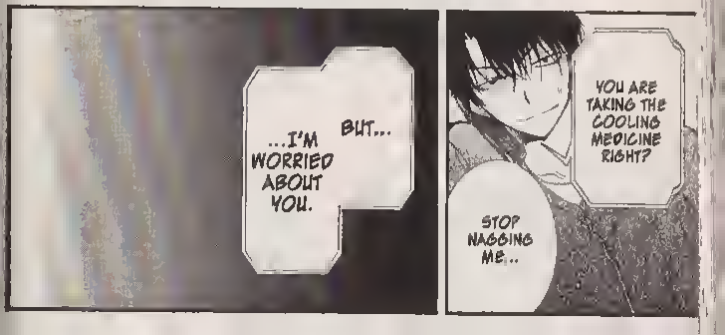
I REALLY GOTTA GO.
CAUSE IT SEEMS SOME-ONE'S GETTING PISSY.
And cause I wanna hurry up and see Shuna in a swimsuit.
JUST WAIT A LITTLE LONGER.
LOOK MAN, ENOUGH ALREADY.
I'M NOT INTO DUDES.
NEITHER AM I!
OWW, OW OW OWW.
JUST HOW...
...ALL OF A SUDDEN MY STOMACH, BACK, AND HEAD HURT AND I FEEL ALL NAU-SEOUS...

YEAH. SEEMS LIKE ALL OF A SUDDEN THIS ONE HERE'S STOMACH, BACK, AND NEAD STARTED TO HURT AND THEY FEEL ALL NAUSEOUS.
YOU GOT ANY-THING FOR THAT?
WHAT? THAT SOUNDS AWFUL.
Where's Shinogu?
WHAT?
MEDI-CINE?
HEY, WHAT'S IT CALLED WHEN A GIRL'S STOMACH, BACK, AND NEAD SUDDENLY HURT AND SHE FEELS ALL NAUSEOUS?
PREG-NANCY.
Damn that Suzuki, off with some random girl.
Huh? Whaaat?
PREGNANCY?!
W--W.. WAIT, S-S-SO, YOU'RE SAYING THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT?
HMM? WELL... I GUESS SO?
Cause it started after my accidental chest touching?
WHAT AN AWFUL MAN!
I can't believe him!
SHUNA-SAN!! WHAT SHOULD WE DO! THERE'S A WOMAN IN LABOR...!
WHAT?!

WHAAAAT?!
I'M HEADING HOME.
SHINOGU-SAN! WE HAVE BIG TROUBLE! A WOMAN'S IN LA...
WHERE IS SHINOGU?
OH, IT'S A CALL FROM SHINOGU-SAN.
I TOO MUST CONTACT SOUICHI...
BEEP BEEP

K: A measure against Kaidai coming to look for him

DON'T WAIT IN FRONT OF BATH-ROOMS! THAT'S CREEPY!
JUST NOW I WENT AND WAITED IN FRONT OF THE BATHROOMS BUT YOU NEVER CAME OUT.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
IT'S NOT THAT, I'M JUST CALLING TO SAY THAT I'M LEAVING SO DON'T SWEAT IT AND HAVE FUN...
DO YOU FEEL THAT BAD?!

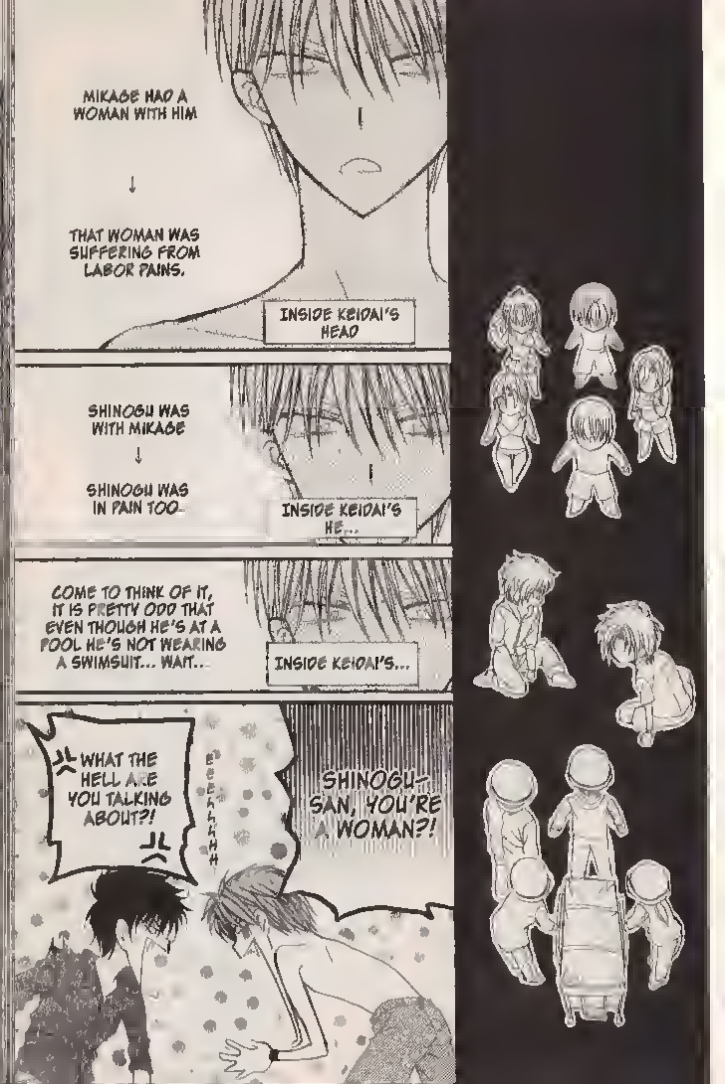


YOU DON'T LIKE HOT WEATHER, SHINOGU-SAN...
...BECAUSE YOUR MEMORY OF THAT DAY IS TOO VIVID.
HEY, YOU ..
LIKE--I'M-- SAYING, I'M FINE SO LEAVE ME THE HECK ALONE, YOU DOLT!!
Borrowed Sat pawns cell phone
SOUICHI, HOW IS THAT PERSON FEELING? I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO THEM..
SHUNA?
...ANYWAY, I'M GONNA BE RESTING, SO YOU GUYS..
OKAY.

WHA? SHINOSU-SAN?!
SHINOSU?!
OWWWWW!!
.....
THEY'RE IN, LIKE, A LOT OF PAIN.
WHAT'S WRONG?!
Aaahhh! Shinosu-san!
SHINOSU!
WHAT'S GOING ON? ARE YOU OKAY?!
I'M HANGING UP.
Click
GYAAAHN! 911 EMERGENCY, I'D LIKE TO PLACE AN ORDER FOR ONE AMBULANCE!!
KEIDAI! THAT WOMAN SEEMS TO BE IN QUITE A BIT OF DANGER!
GAAHNN!! CALM YOURSELF DOWN THERE!!
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO? WHAT IF SHINOSU DOESN'T WANT TO WORRY US AND HE'S JUST PLANNING ON DYING WITHOUT TELLING A SOUL...?!

WHAT HAPPENED? EVERYONE'S ALL WORKED UP!
SHINOGU-SAN'S IN TROUBLE!
HUH, WHAT IS GOING ON?
THE GIRL MIKAGE'S WITH WENT INTO LABOR...
UA...
SO HE ALREADY GOT HER PREGNANT?!
IT SEEMS THAT SOUICHI IS AT THE BREAK AREA.
SHINOGU-SAN MIGHT BE THERE TOO!
HEY, ARE YOU OKAY?
UGG-NN. .
YOU'RE PRETTY NICE, NUH...
ODDLY ENOUGH
NAH, NORMALLY I'D JUST LEAVE YOU ON YOUR OWN.
DON'T SAY THAT, IT SOUNDS LIKE A CORNY PICK-UP LINE...
Creepy!
BUT FOR SOME REASON, I DON'T FEEL LIKE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET
IIIRRRAA!!

SOUICHI! IS THE WOMAN IN LABOR...!!
SHINOGU-SAN, ARE YOU HERE?!
WHERE IS THE WOMAN IN LABOR?!
EMT
SORRY WE'RE LATE!!


MIKAGE HAD A WOMAN WITH HIM
THAT WOMAN WAS SUFFERING FROM LABOR PAINS.
INSIDE KEIDAI'S HEAD
SHINOGU WAS WITH MIKAGE
SHINOGU WAS IN PAIN TOO.
INSIDE KEIDAI'S HE...
COME TO THINK OF IT, IT IS PRETTY ODD THAT EVEN THOUGH HE'S AT A POOL HE'S NOT WEARING A SWIMSUIT... WAIT...
INSIDE KEIDAI'S...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
EEEHHHH
SHINOGU-SAN, YOU'RE A WOMAN?!

HUH? THEN SHINOBU'S HAVING SOUICHI'S CHILD...?
AGAIN, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
MA'AM, IT'S DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO STRUGGLE LIKE THAT.
WHO ARE YOU CALLING MA'AM?!
IT APPEARS HER LABOR PAINS HAVE SUBSIDED FOR NOW, BUT...
...TO BEGIN WITH, THE HOS-PITAL...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, LABOR PAINS?!
LEMME GO, YOU...
DELOS, YOU BASTARD! WHAT THE HELL DID YOU TELL THESE...
OH CRAP, I CALLED SOMEONE WITH NO MEMORIES BY THEIR PAST LIFE NAME...

I REMEMBER NOW.

YOU'RE SMYRNA.

YES, YES, LET'S JUST GET TO THE HOSPITAL, OKAY?

Kaida! Explain yourself!!

You bastard!! So you do have memories, huh?! And what the hell is up with all this anyway?!

I'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED SUCH HUMILIATION IN MY LIFE, SIRIX...

FROM WHAT I HEAR, YOU RECKLESSLY AND WITHOUT ANY CONFIRMATION ASSUMED THAT THE PERSON WHO WAS WITH DELOS WAS A WOMAN WHO HAD GONE INTO LABOR AND CALLED AN AMBULANCE. IN THE END, YOU SAID I WAS A WOMAN AND HAD ME TAKEN AWAY BY SAID AMBULANCE...

NO, IT... IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...

...YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS WITH YOUR LIFE.
Because I don't want to go into a changing room full of boring, icky men.
Why am I not wearing a swimsuit?
SINCE ALL OF THIS WAS DUE TO YOUR CRIME OF NOT TELLING ME YOU HAD MET DELOS AGAIN...
K. Somehow managed to escape
...INTO THAT SUPER FUN 3-METER POOL.
I'LL TIE UP YOUR HANDS AND FEET AND DROP YOU...
THANKS!
BUT WHAT'S UP WITH TELLING LOLEUS HE LOOKS CUTE IN A SWIMSUIT?
YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE IN A SWIMSUIT.
OOOH, LOLEUS.
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?
Gyyaaahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!
sorrow's end

THAT'S EVEN WORSE!
OOH! I FOUND KEI-CHAN'S PHOTO ALBUM!

A catastrophe in Yuuma's memories?!

A STORY, AND A LANDSCAPE THAT I DON'T KNOW... BUT SOMEHOW... THIS PLACE SEEMS FAMILIAR TO ME.

KEIDAI AND COMPANY RESTAGE THEIR THEATRICAL PRODUCTION OF THE FALL OF POMPEII, AND THINGS SPIN OUT OF CONTROL AS THEIR PLANS BECOME MORE AND MORE ELABORATE. AND MEANWHILE, YUUMA'S OWN MEMORIES OF THE TRAGEDY BEGIN TO AWAKEN...?

COMING SOON!

NG LIFE

Volume 5

By Mizuho Kusanagi

In the play... THIS TIME, KEIDAI WILL PLAY SERENA?